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MEMORIALS

OF THE

CHURCHES AND PARISHES

OF

OXFORD.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

VIEW OF OXFORD, FROM THE MEADOWS NEAR THE RAILWAY STATION.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

MEMORIALS

OF THE

CHURCHES AND PARISHES

OF

OXFORD.

BY

THE REV. JAMES INGRAM, D.D.,

PRESIDENT OF TRINITY COLLEGE.

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SECOND EDITION.

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AND 377, STRAND, LONDON.

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I. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

ST PETER'S CHURCH, FROM THE S. E.

Published May 1 1835 by J. H. Parker, Oxford; C. Tilt, Fleet Street; & J. le Keux, Hammersmith.

MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.

THE CRYPT.

St. Peter's in the East.

THE Church of St. Peter in the East, which stands at no great distance from the site of the ancient east-gate[a] of the city, lays claim to a higher antiquity than almost any other ecclesiastical edifice in England. The Crypt, commonly called Grymbald's Crypt, after all the

[a] An old distich, quoted by Leonard Hutten and others, thus refers to the proximity of four parish churches in Oxford to the four principal gates: two dedicated to St. Michael, and two to St. Peter:

"Invigilat portæ australi, boreæque, Michael;
Exortum Solem Petrus regit, atque cadentem."

controversies and criticisms to which the name of Grymbald[b] has given birth, still continues an interesting object of curiosity to antiquaries and architects; nor is there any reason to doubt, that it was built before the Norman conquest. In its general style, it very much resembles the vaulted crypt of Winchester Cathedral; which is attributed to St. Ethelwold; and the oldest part of Canterbury crypt, which is undoubtedly earlier than the time of Lanfranc. It contains two rows of short pillars, ranging from east to west, and two of square pilasters attached to the main walls. Each row consists of four pillars, the capitals of which are well executed,

[b] In one copy of the Life of Alfred, written by his contemporary and friend Asser of St. David's, it is stated that a quarrel arose in Oxford between the old scholars of the University and St. Grymbald, whom Alfred had invited hither from France. In consequence of which Grymbald left Oxford, and giving up his intention of being buried in the crypt, which he had built "subter cancellum ecclesiæ D. Petri in Oriente," retired to the newly-founded abbey of Hide in Winchester: "ad monasterium Wintoniense ab Alfredo recens fundatum proficiscebatur:" (Twyne, p. 144.) "quam quidem ecclesiam," (D. Petri in Oxonia,) continues Asser, "idem Grymboldus extruxerat ab ipso fundamento de saxo summa cura perpolito." The authenticity of this passage has been much disputed; but it is of importance, even if considered as an early interpolation of the original work of Asser, whose death is recorded in the year 910 in the Saxon Chronicle. All the MSS. seem to be now lost. Spelman, Usher, and Stillingfleet argue against the passage; Twyne, Wood, Hearne, and Wise support it. (Vide Wise's Asser, p. 177; Turner's Hist. Anglo-Sax.; Twyne's Apol.; Hearne's Spelman's Alfred, pp. 144, 177: Joh. Glaston, vol. II. p. 648.) It is also to be observed, that from Twyne's commentary on the passage it appears there were copies of Asser extant, containing an account of the building of St. Peter's Church by St. Grymbald, and its consecration by the bishop of Dorchester. Wood in his MSS. says, "Asser Menevens. in Camden's copie corrupted. Compare it with the Saxon copy." (Hearne's Lib. Nig. Scacc. p. 573.)

two being ornamented with some curious sculptures[c]. The vaulting is composed of semicircular arches of hewn stone; which, according to Hearne, was brought from an old quarry, disused since Henry IIId's reign, behind South Hinksey[d]. The present entrance to the crypt is through a large buttress, which though of great age is obviously much more recent than the chancel. There are traces of two other entrances; one at the west end, and another on the north side; from the latter was a winding staircase, leading into the chancel above. Over one of the doors, which are square-headed, is a transom-stone having a semicircle carved upon it. At the east end there appears to have been an altar. The crypt is thirty-six feet long, twenty feet ten inches wide, and nine feet high.

[c] "In the vault, which is large, y^t St. Grymbald made, and in which he designed to have been buried, is a dragon upon one of y^e pillars. A dragon used to be put upon the banners in the times of the Danes and Saxons." (Hearne's MS. Coll. vol. XXXIX. p. 179.) The Britons had before used a similar device. The present crypt has been generally considered by those antiquaries who have paid the greatest attention to the subject to be the original one here mentioned, and coeval with the foundation of St. Neot's hall, the earliest on record, which was situated on the north side of the church; and there was discovered not long since a vaulted subterraneous passage, leading into the crypt in this direction, the doorway of which still remains.

[d] "And now coming again to Chilswell it is very observable, that on the east and south-east side of it are great remains of a very ancient quarry of stone. Indeed it is the oldest quarry about Oxford. It is commonly called Hinxey Quarry. It was from hence the stones were fetched with which the Church of St. Peter in the East, Oxford, (which is the oldest church in that place now standing,) was built by St. Grymbald in the reign of Alfred the Great. Building in stone at that time was not common in England, for which reason people used to come hundreds of miles to see this stone church, and it was commended as a fine piece of work." Hearne, Lib. Nig. p. 570; Langtoft, 604. See also "Discourse on the Stunsfield Pavement," Leland's Itin. vol. VIII. §. 3; Archæologia, vol. I. p. 151.

The CHOIR, or CHANCEL.—Next to the crypt in antiquity must be placed the beautiful choir, which is clearly older than the rich Norman work of St. Cross Hospital near Winchester, built by king Stephen's brother, and therefore must be considered as an early specimen of that peculiar style of architecture which is known by the designation of Norman or Saxon: having prevailed in this country from a period anterior to the conquest, until the establishment of the pointed arch about the end of the reign of Henry II. There are several grounds for supposing that the choir of this church ought to be assigned to a very early period of this style. Under Edward the Confessor, Oxford was a large and flourishing university. The king himself was born and lived at Islip; his father lived at Headington[e]; and this church, as well as that of St. Frideswide, for many years before and after the conquest, was publicly used by the university. In Domesday book it is registered as a church of great consequence; the "benefice" was given to Robert D'Oilgi by the Conqueror, and two hides of land in Holywell were assigned for the support of the church[f].

[e] Some remains of the Saxon palace at Headington were standing so recently as the beginning of the present century, in a close called "Court Close," near the house of Mrs. Finch, commonly known by the name of the Rookery. Some curious old plate had also been dug up on this spot some years previously.

[f] "Idē. Ro. habet. XLII. dom. hospitatas. in Oxeneford. tā intra murū quā extra. Ex his. XVI. reddt. geld. & gablū. Aliæ neutrū reddt quia præ paup'tate n' possunt & VIII. mansiones h't vastas. & XXX. acs pti. juxta murū. & molin. X. solid. Tot. valet III. lib. &. pro I. manerio ten. cū beneficio St. PETRI." Domesd. F. 158. 1.

"Æccla St. Petri de Oxenef. ten. de Rob. II. hid' in Haliwelle. Tra. I. car. Ibi. ē. una. car' & dim' & XXXIII hoēs Hortulos h'ntes Ibi. XL. ac' pti. Valuit XX Sol. Modo. XL. solid. H. t'ra non geldavit. nec ullū debit. reddid'." Fol. 158. 2. a.

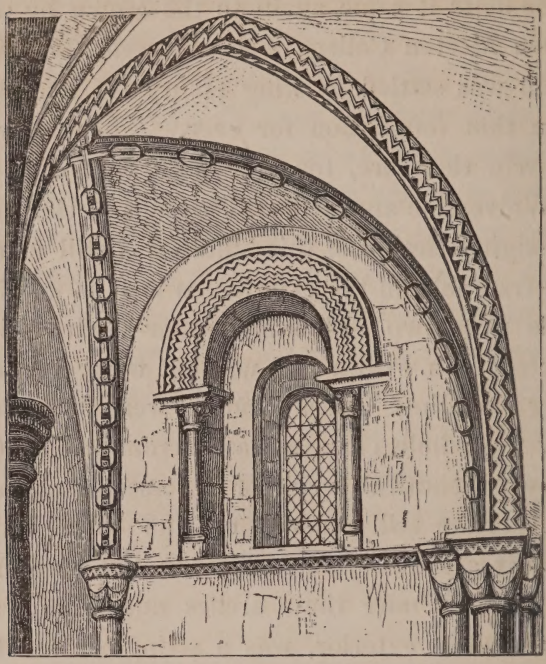
It is observable that the word *beneficium* does not appear in Domes-

From his heirs it came again to the crown by escheat; and when Merton College was endowed, the perpetual advowson was settled by king Henry III. and Bogo de Clare on that foundation for ever. The patronage of this church, therefore, together with that of Holywell and of Wolvercote annexed, still belongs to that society.

The original design of this building is still in a great measure traceable on the exterior, as well as within. On each side were two rich semicircular-headed windows, ornamented both within and without with several rows of zigzag moulding. These windows were connected, and probably the whole chancel was surrounded on the exterior, by a beautiful series of intersected arches: of which a portion still remains on the south wall, and marks of it are discoverable also on the northern and eastern sides. Under these arches and windows, and round the whole exterior, was a string-course of billet moulding. At a moderate height above these windows, but about three or four feet below its present situation, was a rich corbel table[g]. The small round turrets inclosing winding staircases, which terminate the east end, though recently repaired, rose originally to their present height. They are curious specimens of incipient spires.

day, except in this one place. In Oxford the houses (to the number of more than 700) are called *domus*, i. e. stone-houses, while at Wallingford they are only *hagæ*. Among the churches specified in Domesday there are some mentioned particularly as *ligneæ*. This forms a strong argument that the majority were of stone.

g This is clear from several marks. The present situation of the corbel table is considerably higher than the stone groining of the interior. The masonry of the wall is more modern above the old line of the corbel table than below it: and on the north side, a small portion of it, visible in the inside of the Lady chapel, remains in its original situation. The row of quatrefoils has been added.



PART OF THE CHOIR.

The interior of the choir still presents a striking and in some respects an unique specimen of the earlier age of the Saxon or Norman style of building. Two of the four rich semicircular-headed windows still remain. The groined roof is nearly perfect, and the eastern compartment of it is singularly beautiful. The architects of this style seem to have indulged their fancy in the mouldings to a greater extent than those of later date; which is visible in the richer Saxon doorways, as Iffley, Rochester, or St. Margaret's at York; and this cluster of mouldings is perhaps as elegant and tasteful as any we have remaining. On the floor are several pieces of the ancient tile-pavement: though a considerable quantity seems to have been removed within the last few years.

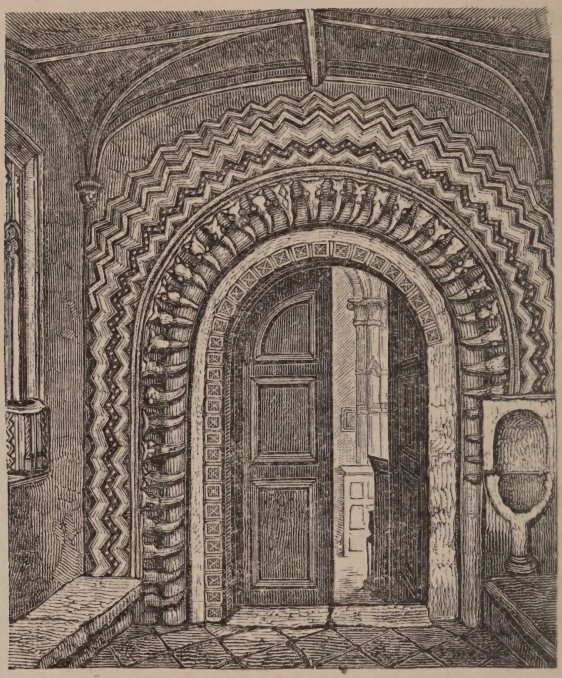
The Lady chapel, which stands at right angles to the north side of the choir, was built about 1240 by St. Edmund of Abingdon, the founder of the hall which is called after his name, and here the scholars of this hall used to celebrate divine service. The delicate lancet-shaped windows which lighted it on the east and west sides are still visible in the wall, though they were blocked up when the other buildings were attached to it. In the north window, which is of far more recent date, being inserted in 1433 by Vincent Wyking vicar of the parish, among other fragments of painted glass, is a symbol of the Trinity; containing in a small compass a summary of the principal points of the Athanasian Creed[h].

The NAVE.—The present nave, which is about two feet wider than the choir, contains specimens of various styles and dates:—a fine tall window of the most elegant proportions, with embattled transoms, and diversified tracery, resembling the south window of the transept at Merton; square-headed windows of more recent date; a rich and remarkable Saxon doorway, deeply set in the wall, and partly hidden by an elegant porch and port-loft, which seem to belong to the reigns of Henry the Sixth or Seventh; and various windows, most of which, if we may trust to the evidence of their curvatures and mouldings, may be referred to the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries[i]. There is also the mark of the semicircular head of a window observable in the wall, in a singular situation, nearly above but not quite perpendicular to

[h] There is a similar device in one of the windows of the library at Balliol College, and it appears on brasses of the 15th century.

[i] The dates of most of them are ascertained by records still existing, or by the "fenestral inscriptions," preserved in Wood's MSS., painted glass, arms, and other devices.

the Norman doorway, being a little on the western side of it.



THE DOORWAY UNDER THE PORCH.

Internally, the south wall bears a zigzag fillet, which seems to harmonize with that of the choir; and, though partially interrupted, may be traced almost to the western extremity of the church. The west end is terminated by a large and handsome window divided by four munnions, without transoms; which is carried so low as to interfere in some degree with the more ancient and more graceful curve of the door below[k]. The north side of the nave is pierced with three fine arches, less

[k] The mean square-headed door with timber jambs to the north of this, opening into the tower, was made in 1625; when it was thought necessary to break through the wall to ascend to the ringing loft.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

INTERIOR OF ST PETER'S CHURCH.

[THE PEWS & SEATS REMOVED]

Published May 1. 1833. by J. Parker, Oxford: C. Tilt, Fleet Street. & J. Le Keux, Hammondsworth.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

acutely pointed than the arch leading from the choir into the Lady chapel; which rests upon very lofty and graceful clustered columns, of a quadruple design, with foliated capitals. These arches are probably coeval with the construction of the north aisle, or chapel of St. Thomas à Becket, which is lighted by two ramified windows of the earlier part of the fourteenth century; and in the square nook, or chantry, which separates this aisle from the Lady chapel, stood perhaps the "awter of St. Katharine," mentioned in the year 1495.

On the wall of St. Thomas à Becket's aisle was a curious painting, executed in 1621, called Queen Elizabeth's Tomb; which is very frequently mentioned in the records of the church. After being repeatedly "repayred and beautified," it was finally erased and covered with whitewash about twenty years ago. It stood exactly where Simon Parret's monumental tablet is now fixed, containing his epitaph on a brass plate[l].

The Tower of the church, which stands at the north-western angle of the building at the extremity of the north aisle, and very considerably out of the line of the nave and chancel, is a singular structure of very uncertain date[m]. In point of general outline it somewhat resembles at a distance the Castle-tower, which was built

[l] See Peshall's Monumental Inscriptions.

[m] From the appearance of the walls at the western end of the nave, being considerably thicker than the other part, although the whole is massive, it has been thought not improbable that the tower was originally in this situation; and that the upper part only was pulled down, when the present tower was built on the north side of it, and a more flat roof was constructed. From the existence of a small portion of the billet-moulding just beyond the arches on the north side of the nave, and from a window in the east side of the tower, it seems to be clear that the nave is earlier than the tower, and the tower than the aisle of St. Thomas.

by Robert D'Oilgi immediately after the conquest; the upper story being gradually contracted, from the point where the buttresses terminate, to the summit of the parapet. There are several marks, however, which are inconsistent with this date. The buttresses which support the walls, and are undoubtedly part of the original building, are graduated, and of considerably more recent style. The windows of the tower cannot be dated higher than the fourteenth or fifteenth century. The quatrefoils which adorn the parapet, though not exactly similar to those of the choir and porch, resemble them in general effect, and contain like them the keys of St. Peter, and the swords placed saltirewise, which denote St. Paul[n].

It appears probable, that St. Peter's church became in early times, instead of St. Frideswide's, the principal church of the university for quadragesimal sermons. But in the reign of Edward II. it is clear that some change was effected; for about this time a sermon was solemnly appointed by the university, and an indulgence of forty days granted by Burwash, or Burghersh, bishop of Lincoln, to all who should attend it. The Anglo-Saxon practice of preaching in the vernacular tongue was now reviving; and a pulpit is said by Peshall to have been set up in the churchyard, "the church itself being too little at that time." In the days of the Puritans and Arminians, it was customary for the vice-chancellor to preach in St. Peter's on the afternoon of Easter-day; a sermon being preached in the morning in the private chapels of colleges and halls; and the same sermon is said to have been repeated at St. Mary's on the following Sunday. One remarkable sermon of Dr. Abbot, mas-

[n] Five of the bells bear the date of 1700, the other was recast by Abel Rudhall in 1753, and the little bell called "Sanctus," in 1777.

ter of Balliol College and brother of archbishop Abbot, when vice-chancellor in 1614–5, in which he made a furious personal attack upon Laud, because he had asserted that "the presbyterians were as bad as the papists," is recorded by Heylyn[o]. Subsequently, the church being found too small to accommodate the university, about the year 1714[p] the western gallery was built at the charge for the most part of its members, for the use of masters of arts and bachelors of law. The right hon. Montague, earl of Abingdon, was a great contributor. The Lent afternoon sermons have been discontinued here since the year 1827, when the interior of the university church of St. Mary's, being refitted, was found more convenient. The pulpit, which is of stone, has two entrances; the one being intended for ordinary use; and the other, by a small stone staircase in the pillar behind, was only used by the university preacher. For this inconvenient ar-

[o] Heylyn's Life of Laud, p. 66, 67. Lond. 1668.

[p] The arrangement of the galleries and of the whole interior of this church, made about the end of queen Anne's reign, is as bad and inconvenient as could well be contrived. The beautiful choir and the chapel of the Virgin are completely shut out of the church by the galleries. It is to be hoped that these galleries may now be removed, as they are no longer wanted by the university, and the organ placed at the west end of the church. The chancel has been lately repaired, and the "wainscot of cedar colour" removed. This wainscot, with the communion table of cedar, raised pavement, rails, &c. was introduced in the year 1685; previously to which, in 1673–7, some considerable repairs had been done both within and without, Merton College repairing part of the chancel. About the same time the mean doorway under the window on the south side was opened. In 1626–9 a canopy, or sounding-board, was placed over the pulpit, and a rate was collected for the repairs of the fabric of the church, which was in "great default." Dr. Clarke gave the parish a superb pair of candelabra, copper-gilt, three feet in height. The wall of the churchyard at the north-west end was built in 1635, and that at the south-west in 1668. The latter cost 15*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* The whole expense of the poor of the parish in 1640 was 8*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.*

rangement there is now no pretence. At the churchyard gate there was for many years a staple remaining, where some person was executed. This is reported to have been in queen Mary's time. Here was also what Peshall calls a "curious rotund font," representing in relief, in stalls, or niches, the twelve apostles; which, after it had rested in its situation here about five hundred years, according to Hearne, was removed a little before his time by the order of a "sacrilegious" churchwarden, and placed at the well on the north side of the church; where, he informs us, he had often seen it[q]. The well is now stopped up, and the figures are gone. Many persons of local distinction and of eminence in the literary world are buried within this church. We may mention Dillenius, one of the first botanists of his day, and Sherardian professor in this University; the Langbaines and Potters; many heads of the colleges and halls in this parish; among them Dr. Josiah Pullen, principal of Magdalene hall, whose name will survive as long as the well known tree planted by his own hand on Headington hill shall continue in existence. In the Lady chapel is a fine altar tomb of Petworth marble to the memory of R. Atkinson, five times mayor of Oxford[r]. There are also several memorials and inscriptions on brasses af-

[q] It has been engraved by Skelton in his Oxonia, among other ancient fonts in Oxford, pl. 152. Of this curious font, most probably the oldest in Oxford, a small fragment only remains, consisting of about one-fourth of the circumference; which was placed a few years since, at the suggestion of Dr. Silver, the second Saxon Professor of St. John's College, in the west window of the porch, where it is still seen. From this fragment it is easy to calculate the size and shape of the whole font. It was a polygon of twelve sides, for the twelve apostles; and measured nearly twelve feet in circumference. The "rotundity" was confined to the interior.

[r] He is represented on a brass plate between his two wives, with their eleven children beneath. He died in 1574.

fixed to the walls. One of these is to the memory of Simon Parret, mentioned in our account of the benefactors of Magdalene college: it records the unusual circumstance of his having been twice proctor of the university. He died in 1584. Pointer has strangely perverted that part of the inscription which relates to his wife. In the churchyard is the tomb of the celebrated antiquary Thomas Hearne, formerly vice-principal of St. Edmund hall. This tomb has been twice restored; once by Dr. R. Rawlinson, the founder of the Anglo-Saxon professorship, and more recently by subscription. Sir R. C. Hoare has also lately requested a brass plate to be affixed at his expense to the walls of the chancel, recording the memorable individual who so faithfully "studied and preserved ANTIQUITIES."

The parish of St. Peter in the East, exclusive of the annexed chapel of St. Cross or Holywell, extends on the east to the river Cherwell, on the north to New college slipe, on the west to Broad street and Cat street, and on the south to Merton fields[s]. Within this space were included a vast number of academical halls[t].

[s] The population of this parish in 1831 was 1126. The valuation of the benefice, according to the taxation-roll of pope Nicholas in 1291, was 40*l.*, including the chapels of "Haliwelle and Wolgarecote." In the Valor of H. VIII. the amount is 51*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.* For it must be remembered, that besides St. Cross, or Holywell church, the chapel of Wolvercote belongs to the mother church of St. Peter. In the year 1413, when large repairs were done to the body and roof of the church, a serious difference arose about the payment, between the parish and the chapelry of Wolvercote. The suit was carried to Rome; and it was at length decided that the chapel was liable for the repairs of the mother church. See Hearne's MSS., vol. CXLIV.

[t] Among these were Nightingale hall and Hare hall, situated on the west side of the lane, since called Coach and Horses lane, near the turning into St. John's street; and in the High street, near the

The streets in this parish are greatly changed since the building of New college; for Torald street seems to have been parallel to Cat street, and to have extended from the corner of Queen's college in High street, past the west end of St. Peter's, and between the ten halls which stood where New college now is, to a postern in the north wall of the town near the present situation of the back gate of that college. The lane also called in different parts of its course Somner's, Exeter, or Cornwell lane, ran just within or under the north wall, from the precincts of the castle on the west to the east gate of the city.

That portion of the city wall which forms the eastern

east gate, were Berst hall and Kepeharme hall. A little to the west there was "Le Taberd on the hope," once an academical hall, afterwards an inn; and near to this, opposite to the street leading to St. Peter's church, was a tenement on the site of the present Angel inn, belonging formerly to our Lady's chapel in the same church. It was a place for the reception of clerks, though an inn, and always described as "aula vocat' le Saracen's Head." This appears to have been also the case with many other inns in Oxford. It has been observed that, in the modern sense of the word, inns were formerly less frequent than now, because religious houses entertained strangers. The next tenement to the west was Boster hall, which was purchased by Waynflete from the hospital; and with some other halls and tenements converted by him into Magdalene hall formed the nucleus of that splendid foundation, which eventually replaced the hospital itself. A little further to the west was Horsemul lane, now Logic lane, leading from the High street to Alban hall and Merton college. It was so named from a horsemill (molendinum equitium) which stood therein. In this lane was Horsemul hall, which with several other halls formed part of the site of University college. There is also frequent mention in old ledger-books of Drowda hall, Dundamore hall, Willoughby hall, Gutter hall, St. George's and St. Catharine hall, Elm hall, and others, all in this parish; of which notices will be found in various parts of Peshall's edition of Wood's History. See particularly pp. 72, 77, 89, 91, 101—105. and Lib. Parv. S. Frid. passim.

and northern boundaries of New college[x], is in much better preservation than any other part of the old fortifications of Oxford. It is also constructed of superior masonry. This affords a proof of the exact fulfilment of an agreement made in the year 1389, between William of Wykeham and the mayor and corporation of the City, still preserved among their deeds, by which the citizens assigned to the bishop a certain portion of the wall, the said bishop engaging for himself and successors to rebuild it, and keep it in perpetual repair.

Just on the north side of the east gate, within the walls, stood an ancient chapel of the brethren of the holy Trinity. This had first been founded outside of the city wall to the south of the east gate, where Trinity hall stood till the time of queen Elizabeth[y]. Near the north-western extremity of St. Peter's parish was a chapel, formed hexagonally out of one of the bastions of the city wall, and supposed to have been dedicated to our Lady St. Catharine. A part of it still remains, at the entrance of New College lane, with an ancient doorway;

[x] The portion of the wall thus ceded to New College commenced at a bastion, called Wyndesore's postern, at the south-east angle of the college garden, behind the house lately occupied by Mr. Gutch in Long Wall; and extended to another postern in St. Helen's passage, adjoining the residence of the Rev. Dr. Bliss, about sixty yards to the east of Smith-gate and our Lady's chapel. Other parts of the old wall may still be traced in this parish, particularly along the terrace in Merton garden, and behind the houses in Coach and Horses lane to the site of the old east gate, which extended across the High street, between the houses now occupied by Mr. Plowman and Mr. Dixon. From this gate, which was removed in 1771, the wall was continued at the back of the present houses to Wyndesore's postern beforementioned. A view of the gate, which had long lost its ancient character, is engraved in Mr. Skelton's Oxonia.

[y] Peshall, pp. 74. 295. See also the map by Agas.

over which is a mutilated piece of sculpture, probably intended to represent the marriage of St. Catharine. Adjoining to it was Smith-gate, which formed the outlet from Cat street towards the Parks.

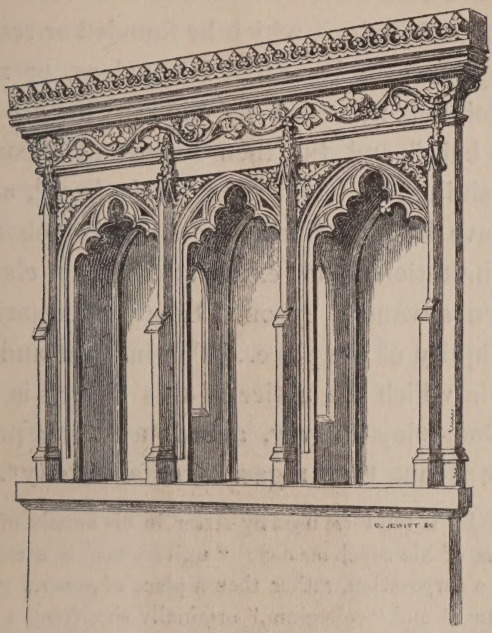
This street, which is partially forgotten since the removal of the old houses standing within the last ten years between the public schools and the new buildings of Magdalene hall, received its name from Catharine hall, which anciently stood on the east side of it.

REMAINS OF ST. CATHARINE'S CHAPEL.

TOWER & SPIRE OF SAINT MARY'S CHURCH.

Published June 1, 1833, by J. H. Parker, Oxford, C. Tilt, Fleet Street, & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.



SEDILIA IN THE CHANCEL.

St. Mary the Virgin.

THE PARISH of St. Mary the Virgin in the city of Oxford[a] received its denomination, like most other parishes in towns and cities, from the original dedication of its CHURCH: of this therefore we shall first give an account.

[a] This is the legal description, to distinguish this church and parish from that of St. Frideswide, which was also dedicated in honour of the Virgin; but was originally situated without the walls; and in the earliest documents it is called, not St. Frideswide's, but St. Mary's, "prope Tamesim." See our Memorial of Christ Church, p. 11, note[k].

THE OLD CHURCH.—According to the general current of history and tradition, there was a church or chapel on this spot in the time of king Alfred; being positively said to have been built by him, and annexed to the school, college, or university[b], which he founded or restored after the ravages of the Danes[c]. His palace, or royal mansion adjoining it, called by himself in his Laws the "King's hall," and the then important accommodation of a brasinium, brewhouse, or *brasin-huse*[d], appellations which have been retained ever since, corroborate, under proper limitations and explanations, the claims which have been advanced by our Oxford antiquaries for the high antiquity of the place. The indirect and incidental manner in which the notice of this church is introduced in the Domesday Survey, affords a strong presumption that it was not then regarded as a novelty[e]. The pa-

[b] "Schola" is the term used by Asser in his annals of the life and transactions of his royal master; "universitas" is a medieval term, to express a corporation, rather than a place of general study, "generale studium;" and "collegium," originally signifying a company, or fraternity, seems to have been introduced in more recent times, as a classical term, descriptive of a place of peculiar endowment. The disputes concerning the relative antiquity of our universities, and the constitution of them, have arisen chiefly either from a misapplication of words, or a misconception of their import. The old definition of an university is, "ubi universi congregantur;" and in ancient deeds the corporation of Oxford is styled "the university of the citizens of Oxford." The privilege of granting degrees is quite a distinct thing.

[c] See Wood's Hist. and Antiq. Annals, &c., and Peshall, p. 55.

[d] See the Hundred Rolls, 7 Ed. I, where the earliest instance is found of the corruption of this word, which has been perpetuated at Stamford as well as at Oxford.

[e] "Ad terras quas tenuit Albericus comes pertinet i. æcclesia. et iii. mansiones. Harum ii. jacent ad æcclesiam S. MARIÆ. reddentes xxviii denarios. et tertia jacet ad Bureford. reddens. v. solidos." (Domesday, p. 154.) This last mentioned mansion was Burford hall, situated opposite to the east end of St. Mary's church, afterward

tronage of it appears to have then belonged to the crown, as clearly as that of St. Peter's in the East; the beneficiary interest and emoluments being held of the king, as temporalities, for which a certain rent was reserved according to the estimate of the commissioners.

By permission of the crown, in process of time, a variety of subordinate CHAPELS or CHANTRIES were erected here, as in other places, and endowed by individuals or fraternities with annual stipends to the officiating priests. Many of these have been entirely obliterated by the subsequent alterations and repairs of the edifice, or have assumed different names; but some of them must have existed under the distinct names preserved by Antony à Wood, long after the new church was built on the south side of the old one; as appears from the vice-chancellor's books[f]. It is recorded, for instance, that whenever an ordinary congregation of regents, or of regents and non-regents, commonly called a convocation, was solemnized, it was always in St. Mary's chancel; till the present convocation house was erected; but, when there was a public act, a "generalis inceptio[g]," as it was called, six

called Charlton's inn, and inhabited by students. The site is now occupied by the south-west angle of All Souls' college.

[f] In the parish accounts also for the year 1492, when the new nave is supposed to have been finished, under the title of "costs of carpenters about the church," there is a charge "for removing of Trinity chapel, St. Catharine's chapel, taking down the stone pulpit, closing the quere, (enclosing the choir by erecting a screen, over which was placed afterwards, c. 1507-8, a rood-loft and organ-loft,) removing the setys (seats) in the south side of the church." Even so late as 1533 there is a charge for a mason and labourers for making the *altars*, mending the north side of the church, new trussing the bells, &c.

[g] The word "commencement" is still retained at Cambridge, which corresponds with our commemoration, or encænia.

separate portions of the church and its appendages were assigned to the different faculties and degrees. At the proclamation of the bedel the non-regents only went into the chancel of the new church, the theologists into the congregation-house, (the chancel of the old church[h],) the decretists into St. Ann's chapel, the physicians into St. Catherine's, the jurists into that of St. Thomas, and the proctors with the regents into our Lady's chapel[i]. As

INTERIOR OF THE OLD CONGREGATION-HOUSE.

h That this was the chancel of the old church, where the university engines are now kept, or the room over, which also served as a congregation-house, is evident from a singular expression in the statutes, "boreale sacellum," or "the north chapel," (Adam de Brom's,) used in contradistinction to the chancels at the east end; one of which is generally called the congregation-house, and the other is sometimes called "sacellum," and sometimes "capella orientalis." Vid. Corpus Stat. tit. VII. sect. I. §. 2. 11. compared with §. 12.—MDCXXXIV.

i "Our Lady's chapel" is that now called Adam de Brom's chapel,

F.Mackenzie. J.L.e Keux.

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HIGH STREET.

Published Sept.r 1st 1836, by J.H.Parker. Oxford; C.Tilt. Fleet Street London; & J.Le Keux. Harmondsworth.

it appears, therefore, impossible to comprehend the history of this church, which gradually arose out of a variety of separate and distinct chapels, without an examination of the chapels themselves, we have thought it necessary thus briefly to detail such particulars as may serve to throw a light on the subject, and explain our ancient statutes.

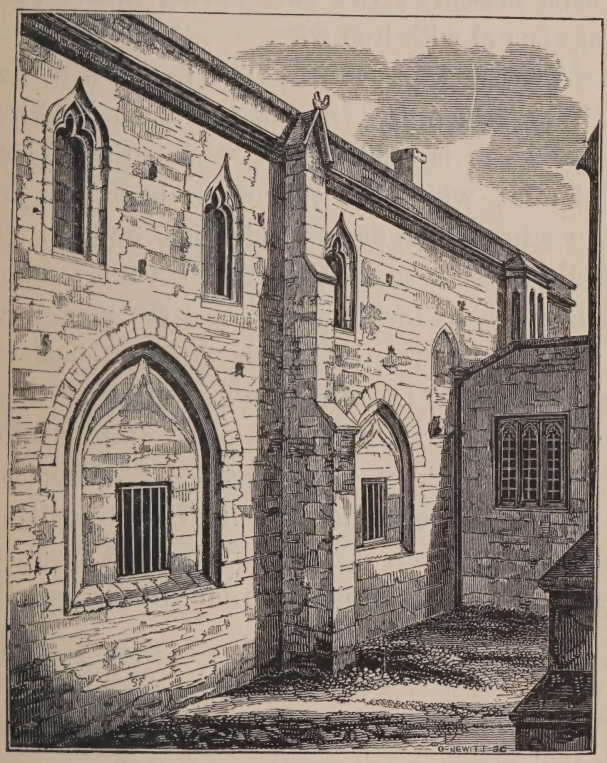
The first in order of time is the ROYAL CHAPEL, now generally known by the title of the Old Congregation-house, which formed the eastern extremity of the old church, and is still an interesting relic. It seems to have been consigned to the use of the university at a very early period; for a deed, executed here in the year 1201, is said to be "given in our house of congregation;" and there is preserved among the patent rolls in the Tower of London a very ample exemplification and confirmation of the original use of this house "for the congregation of all the scholars of the university;" the reason whereof is added, "because it belongs to the Royal college, otherwise called the King's hall." The date of this patent is 19th April, 11 Hen. IV, in which year also, 17th March, a composition was made between the university and Oriel college; the provisions of which are ratified by the au-

whose altar-tomb is there still. Its ancient name was derived from "our Lady of Littlemore;" that Saxon monastery being dedicated in honour of the Virgin Mary and St. Nicholas. Hence, to avoid confusion, this chapel was sometimes distinguished by the name of St. Nicholas; and afterwards, 16 Ric. II, when the lands and tenements belonging to it were given in mortmain to Oriel college, it was assigned to them on condition that they celebrated a morning mass at the altar of St. Thomas. (See Wood ap. Peshall, p. 59.) At the same time also the chapel or chantry of St. Thomas, belonging to the guild or fraternity of St. Thomas the Martyr, and probably founded by them, was by them conveyed, with all its lands and revenues, at the request of the chancellor of the university, to Oriel college.

thority of the royal patent above mentioned, whereby the claim of the university to this ancient edifice is settled for ever. Until this important decision took place, the title to this property had been disputed for nearly a century; for bishop Cobham had begun to build a public library over this congregation-house about the year 1320, several years antecedent to the foundation of Oriel college; but in consequence of these unfortunate disputes it was not finished till 1367, nor the books deposited there till the final adjustment of the matter in 1409. Previously to this, not only the books of bishop Cobham's donation, but those of other benefactors, were locked up in chests, or chained upon desks, in the vaulted room below. Here also was kept the "cista academica," or university chest, with five keys, containing the "jocalia," plate, money, &c. together with the Warwick chest, Chichele chests, and others. The latter was augmented by Edmund Audley, bishop of Salisbury, with a donation of 200 marks; and, for the better security of the treasure, books, and muniments, the same great benefactor is said to have strengthened the windows with iron bars.

Though this curious structure has been attributed to "a certain scholar of old time even beyond all memory," there seems every reason to conclude, that this scholar of old time was no less a personage than king Henry I, called for his fine scholarship "Beauclerk." The vaulted roof is of that period; and in his charter of confirmation of St. Frideswide's church and monastery, in 1122, he describes that establishment as looking towards his own chapel, "ad capellam meam spectantem." This structure appears to have extended originally farther westward than at present; one entire

bay being enclosed to make a new staircase and landing-place to the Law school, the panelled ceiling of which is carried through the partition to the tower. The remains of the columns and arches, and the incipient ribs of the groining, are still discernible under the staircase. The whole length of the chapel, including this bay, which is



SOUTH SIDE OF THE OLD CONGREGATION-HOUSE.

now cut off by a partition wall, was not much less than sixty feet. At the upper end on the south side is a benetier[k], or holy water basin, probably inserted when

[k] This will explain the benediction clause in the statute, now obsolete, relating to the public Act, tit. VII. s. I. §. 2.

bishop Cobham's upper story was built, with the small windows of which it in some degree accords. The window also at the east end, under which is now a doorway, is of later introduction. The original windows between the bays on each side have undergone many successive alterations, and are now filled almost entirely with solid masonry; two only having square porthole openings fenced with iron wire.

THE TOWER AND SPIRE.—The tower, with its fine spire, is next in order; one of the north-eastern buttresses of which is built into the wall of the old congregation-house; whilst the wall of the upper story, now the Law-school, rests against this same buttress above; this addition being somewhat later than the tower. Of the noble arches which once adorned the present vestibule under the tower, by which we enter modern St. Mary's, only a few traces remain[1]. In front of this vestibule the lofty arch, which formerly opened into the chapels of St. Ann, St. Catharine, and St. Thomas, the high-pitched roof of which may still be traced on the outside of the tower, is nearly obliterated by a partition-wall, made for the sake of an inner doorway; whilst

[1] A porch might be constructed at no very great expense under the north window, and between the buttresses, to prevent any current of air; in which case the three blank walls within might be entirely removed, the arches with their clustered columns and mouldings restored, and the low platform for the ringers either taken away altogether, or carried considerably higher up into the tower. The Law-school would admit of considerable improvement by opening the original east window, which remains nearly entire behind the professor's chair; there are the remains of a bay window on the south side, now in a dilapidated state. Between the present chancel and the old congregation-house, is a small room on the ground-floor with a square-headed window and a modern door of entrance from Cat street, in which the city engines are kept.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

INTERIOR OF SAINT MARY'S CHURCH.

Published June 1, 1833, by J. H. Parker, Oxford: C. Tilt, Fleet Street: & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

one of the buttresses projects six feet into the undergraduates' gallery.

Nothing can exceed the imposing majesty of this tower, viewed externally. Its simplicity is finely contrasted with an exuberance of decorated pinnacles and niches, the most prominent of which are enriched with statues admirably executed, and nearly as large as life. Each angle is flanked with double buttresses of six stages gradually diminishing, and united above by an open parapet of trefoil work, which surrounds the base of the spire. The panels and gables of the pinnacles are lined with a profusion of pomegranates in honour of Eleanor of Castile[m], the mother of Edward II, in whose reign probably the work was completed under the superintendence of his almoner, Adam de Brom; to whom and to his successors, the provost or rector, and scholars, the king granted the perpetual advowson of this royal church, on condition that they should find FOUR CHAPLAINS to celebrate divine service in the said church every day for ever[n]. For so great an object of a public nature, there can be no doubt that there were great contributions from the university and its members. Adam de Brom's chapel was founded at this period, and indulgences were granted by all the bishops of England for

[m] Queen Eleanor gave the large mansion called "le Oriole," whence Oriel college derives its present appellation, to her chaplain Jacobus de Hispania, or James of Spain, who in the third year of Edward III. conveyed it to the provost and fellows; upon which they removed to it from their first habitation at Tackley's inn, or Bulkeley hall.

[n] This number, "quaternarius numerus," was very commonly provided for the service of the church; for three were considered absolutely necessary, and allowance was made for the casual absence of one from illness or other causes.

the furtherance of the work: but it is not probable that this was for the chapel only.

THE PRESENT CHURCH.—The chancel[o] is said to have been built by Walter Lyhert, Le Harte, or Hart, provost of Oriel and afterwards bishop of Norwich, who also built some parts of that cathedral, and died in 1472. About the beginning of the reign of Henry VII, which was a reign highly favourable to architecture and the arts, the university undertook to build what may be considered almost an entire new church, instead of rebuilding the old one, as it has been generally understood. This being a great work, it was done, as Wood observes, "not solely at their own charges, but mostly by the benefactions of others which they procured[p]. They thus produced a magnificent nave and side

[o] The university have always had the use of this chancel, as of the other parts of the church; and the "morrow-mass priest" continued to be paid for reading the gospel till all masses were abolished. The proctors here administer the usual oath to the new mayor in the presence of the vice-chancellor. Dr. Bathurst, when vice-chancellor, repaired the injury done to the floor during the rebellion, paved it at his own expense with black and white marble, and furnished the altar with a wainscot, carved communion rails, a table, &c. The altar itself, with the enrichments of the choir, had probably been removed before; but on the south side are three beautiful stalls, or *sedilia*, for the priest, deacon, and subdeacon, in very good preservation. See p. 1.

[p] Ann. I. 645, A. D. 1488. A register was made in 1574 by Richard Lee, clarencieux king at arms, of the coats of arms with which the church was at that time ornamented; amongst others, the arms of Dr. R. Fitzjames, warden of Merton, bishop of Rochester, and subsequently of Chichester and London, one of the chief benefactors to the church; of Dr. Lichfield, archdeacon of Middlesex and Bath, who gave 200*l.* towards the new building; and of many others, well known to have assisted materially in the work. This register therefore may be regarded as equivalent to a list of the royal and noble persons, both domestic and foreign, who were subscribers to

aisles; nearly following the line of the chancel previously constructed. According to the alteration in the mode of building, we find the roof more obtuse; being lowered about eighteen inches in the centre, and having a corresponding elevation of eighteen inches at the sides. The external appearance, nevertheless, is inferior to that of the chancel; though the transition from one style to the other within a few years is very interesting. This is remarkably striking in the windows, buttresses, and parapets. The windows of the clere story, the last in order of time, are in less elegant taste; the principal munnions, which form the sub-arches, being carried too high before they diverge from each other[q]. The difference,

the erection of this edifice, intended expressly to be an university church. Amongst these are to be found Henry VII, who granted forty oaks; Arthur prince of Wales, Henry duke of York, afterwards Henry VIII, Charles king of France, John duke of Lancaster, Stanley earl of Derby, and most of the bishops of this period, beside other dignitaries. Perhaps, however, the most interesting memorial is that of sir Reginald Bray, then high steward of the university, the ARCHITECT of the new church; who seems to have been hitherto too much overlooked. Not only were his arms with all his quarterings impaled with those of his wife, but they were both represented kneeling with their surcoats of arms on their backs; as sir Reginald is seen at Malvern, his native place; where, as well as here, at Windsor, and innumerable other places, he has left splendid memorials of his taste and skill.

[q] In the beautiful organ-screen of Painswick stone, erected in 1827, the windows of the side aisles have been judiciously copied instead of those in the clere story.

The new windows were furnished with painted glass; two in Adam de Brom's chapel being the gift of Alice Walwyn and Dr. Edmund Wylsford. The latter was provost from 1507 to 1516. The arms of John Russel, bishop of Lincoln, chancellor of all England, and first perpetual chancellor of the university, are seen in the spandrils of the doorway under the great west window, those of the university being opposite to his own. He continued chancellor from

in effect, between a single cornice and a double one, is also apparent in the parapets. On the north side, if we may trust to engraved views, there appears to have been originally an open parapet pierced with trefoils, to correspond with those on the parapet of the tower.

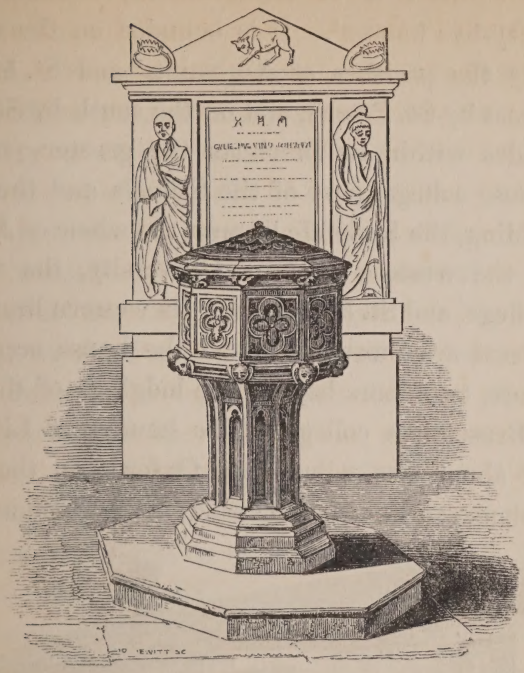
The late restoration of the interior has been accomplished with much taste, and in a manner highly creditable to the youthful architect[r], to whom the task was committed; the removal of the monuments from the pillars, and of the barbarous woodwork which disfigured this elegant building, were great improvements: the present arrangement of the galleries and seats is perhaps the best that the church would admit, while much additional room has been obtained.

1484 to 1494. In the latter year sir Reginald Bray gave forty marks to repair the church; probably towards reducing Adam de Brom's chapel, and the rest of the northern elevation, to an uniformity of appearance. This was completed in 1509-10, and the names of the contributors were commemorated by their arms painted on the roof and on the windows of the Law-school, which have been long destroyed, but a list of them is preserved. Peshall, p. 66.

The porch was erected in 1637 at the cost of Dr. Morgan Owen chaplain to archbishop Laud: the expense was 230*l*. Laud's History of his Chancellorship, p. 185. The figure of the Virgin and child on this porch gave great offence to the puritans, and was made one of the articles of accusation against Laud. See Prynne's "Canterburies Doome." It was defaced by the parliamentary soldiers about five years after it was erected.

The length of the nave is 94 feet by 54 wide, including side aisles; of the chancel, 68 by 24; the height of the nave is 70; of the side aisles 50. The height of the steeple from the ground to the summit of the spire, is 180 feet; the exact altitude of the spire alone of Salisbury cathedral.

[r] Mr. Thomas Plowman: this promising young man died a few days before the completion of the work, in March 1828. It may therefore be regarded as an appropriate and permanent monument of his genius.



THE FONT, AND MONUMENT OF SIR W. JONES[s].

[s] The present elegant font was executed by Mr. Plowman in 1828 at the expense of the Rev. E. Hawkins, D. D., provost of Oriel college, and many years vicar of this parish. Near this font is a mural tablet of statuary marble, supported by elegant figures, the work of Flaxman, to the memory of Sir William Jones, corresponding with that in the chapel of University college, of which sir William was a member. The ancient stone font, beautifully carved, was defaced about the same time as the celebrated pulpit given by warden Fitzjames, which Dr. Bathurst has been erroneously accused of having removed during his vice-chancellorship. The following is Wood's account of it: "St. Mary's pulpit was then (1563) of fine carved ashler stone joining to the upper pillar of the south side of the body of the church; which pulpit was taken away when Dr. John Owen was vice-chancellor about 1654, and a framed pulpit of *wood* was set on the pedestal that upheld the frame of stone." (Ath. Oxon. vol. I. c. 144. reprinted in the Annals.) The mutilated remains of both may be seen near the entrance door on the north side.

THIS PARISH is of small extent, containing only about fifty-five houses[t]. It is bounded on the west and north by the parishes of All Saints' and St. Michael's, on the east by St. Peter's, and on the south by St. John's. It includes within its precincts the greater portion of Brasennose college, part of the Schools and the Clarendon building, the Radcliffe library, the whole of All Souls' college, the western part of University, the whole of Oriel college, and St. Mary hall. Its western limits in the High street are Swan court and the house occupied by Mr. Spiers, two doors beyond the lodgings of the principal of Brasennose college. The hamlet of Littlemore, situated about two miles from Oxford, on the Henley road, belongs to this parish, where some remains of the

REMAINS OF THE MYNCHERY AT LITTLEMORE.

[t] In the population returns of 1831 the number of souls is stated to be 419; but Littlemore liberty is not included, containing 425 more. Vid. Comparative Account of the Population, &c. pp. 210, 211.

Saxon mynchery, mynecena-þice[u], already mentioned, are still to be seen.

Schools.—Wood enumerates not less than thirty-two schools in School street alone, about the year 1400; schools being at that time, like halls, hostels, and inns, receptacles for scholars, clerks, or students, and generally under the government of masters of the different faculties; who were responsible to the chancellor; giving aulary cautions, and depositing pledges in his hands.

Halls.—We find mention of several academical halls in this parish; the exact situations of a few of which may be pointed out to the curious. Opposite to the west gate of All Souls' college was Nevyle hall, which was for "legists," or law students, and appears to have been of some importance in the time of Henry VI. Opposite to the south end of Cat street was George hall, of which there are some slight remains at the back of the Old Bank. Near to this were Great and Little Lion halls, of which there is an engraving in Mr. Skelton's Oxonia, from drawings preserved in the Bodleian library. These two halls being demised by Oseney to Mr. John Cobbowe, clerk, in 1435, were united by him, and afterwards called Cobbowe hall. The site may be traced near the Black Lion public-house, opposite to the new almshouses built by the late alderman John Parsons[x].

[u] This mynchery, or nunnery, was restored soon after the conquest, had a charter of confirmation from Henry II, and a bull for the re-edification of the church from pope Innocent IV, c. 1254. See Dugdale, Tanner, Wood, Hearne, &c.

[x] Several other halls are mentioned in Schidyerde street; but as they were afterwards included in Oriel college, we pass them over at present. Of Tackley inn, or Bulkeley hall, mentioned often, a crypt and one window of the refectory are still remaining in the house occupied by Mr. Slatter, a few doors to the west of St. Mary hall lane. Near to this were Swan hall and St. Thomas's hall; the latter was given for the support of the chapel of St. Thomas. Be-

STREETS.—There has not been much alteration in the streets of this parish, but their names have undergone several changes. Magpie lane, so called from the sign of the Magpie which formerly hung on the east side of it, was anciently called Grope lane, from W. de Grope, who lived in it, and owned divers messuages hereabout in the time of king John. In this lane lived Winkyn de Worde, one of the earliest printers in England; and from him it was at one time called Winkyn lane. The lane now called St. Mary hall lane, was anciently called Schidyerde street, "vicus Schediasticorum," from the number of writers and transcribers of *schedes*, sheets, or books, who resided in it. This lane was anciently continued between Corpus Christi and Canterbury colleges to St. Frideswide's church. School street, called in some ancient documents "Vicus Scholarum Artium," commenced from the High street, at the west end of St. Mary's church, passing between a number of ancient schools and halls, and having Duke Humphrey's library on the west side, near the north end, where it ran into the lane under the north wall of the city, called in this part Exeter lane.

tween School street and Cat street were innumerable tenements, of which some idea may be formed from a ground-plan preserved in the Radcliffe library, engraved by Mr. Skelton in his Oxonia. One school here was distinguished by the appellation of Beaufront, from its superior frontage. The schools of old Balliol hall stood where the Divinity school now is; little University hall, near the north-east angle of Brasennose college. The priory of Bicester as well as Oseney abbey, had its school here; and Paske hall, given to the nuns of Littlemore about the middle of the reign of Hen. III, assumed the appellation of Littlemore schools. Oriel college had also its schools at the corner of the little lane leading from Cat street to School street, opposite the now blank door of All Souls' college, given to St. Mary's church in the reign of Edward III. by Nicholas Garland, to find two priests to celebrate divine service at the altar of St. Thomas. (See more in Wood's Account of Local Antiquities, at the end of his History and Annals, p. 709—794.)

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux

St MICHAEL'S CHURCH.

Published Sept.1st 1834. by J.H. Parker Oxford; C. Tilt, Fleet St. London; & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

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MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.

NORTH VIEW OF BOCARDO, 1770.

St. Michael's Church.

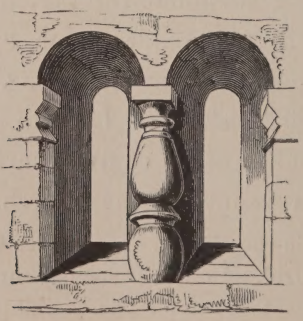
THE Church of St. Michael at North-gate[a] is said to have belonged to the canons of St. Frideswide in the Saxon times; but if so it was lost during the struggles between the regular and secular clergy, by which that society was distracted about the period[b] of the Norman conquest, and was restored to them by king Henry I. with several other churches in 1122[c]. Subsequently, William de Blois, bishop of Lincoln, about 1205, appointed an annual pension of five marks to be paid to them out of the revenues of the church, which was con-

[a] See St. Peter's in the East, p. 1. [b] See Christ Church, p. 13.

[c] Reg. Mag. St. Frid. In the Domesday survey is the following entry, which appears to be applicable to this church: 'Presbyteri S. Michaelis habent ij mansiones reddentes Ljj denarios.' This would seem to imply, that the church was independent of St. Frideswide's at the period of the survey.

firmed by pope Innocent III. in the 17th year of his pontificate, and afterwards by other popes. This pension appears to have been purchased, or an equivalent given for it, by Henry Burwash, or Burghersh, bishop of Lincoln, in 1326; after which the patronage remained in the diocesan until the foundation of Lincoln college; when Richard Fleming, bishop of Lincoln, obtained a charter to annex it, together with the now forgotten church of St. Mildred, to the collegiate church of All Saints', and to settle it on that society[d].

In the present fabric we may remark seven or eight different periods of construction; though nearly the whole of it is of considerable antiquity. The most ancient portion is the tower; which has been generally referred to the period when the advowson was given or restored to the monastery of St. Frideswide, in 1122. But it has been supposed by many eminent architects and antiquaries to be a relic of the Saxon times. It is built of rubble with quoins of finished masonry. The original doorway at the west end is walled up; but traces of it remain. In the belfry, two of the four windows are divided by balusters of a singular form and of rude



WINDOW IN THE BELFRY.

[d] See Lincoln college, p. 3.

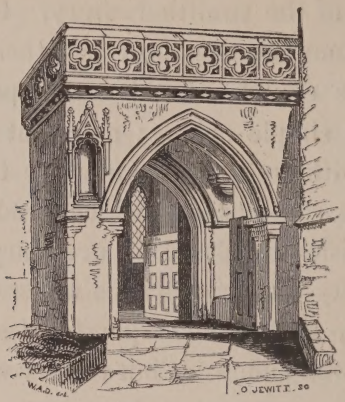
workmanship, in the place of the usual munnions[e]. The next portion is the nave; then the chancel, which is in the earliest lancet style, and was probably added about the end of the twelfth century. Of the original nave there are now no remains; but there can be little doubt that the church at this early period was like most others, a simple oblong; and that the side walls were pierced with arches as we now see them, when the addition of the side chapels, which gradually assumed the form of aisles, rendered it necessary. About the same time a lofty arch was opened under the tower.

The chapels, with their separate altars, have been numerous and well endowed: but as they were all merged by the statute for suppressing chantries, we shall be brief respecting their founders. The first of which we have any account was built about 1260 by Dionysia Burewald, an opulent widow in this parish, in the reign of Hen. III. It is stated to have been on the south side, and the two windows at the east end of the south aisle probably belonged to it[f]. She is also said to have built another chapel or chantry on the north side, near the Lady chapel. This was probably opposite to the other, as one of the original lancet windows remained until the year 1833; when the north wall of this chapel was taken down and rebuilt; having been for many years in a very ruinous state. The next was built by John Odyham, a rich burgess of Oxford, who died in 1342, and appears

[e] These balusters correspond in a very striking manner with the representations found in the pen and ink drawings which frequently accompany Saxon MSS. Similar examples have been recently noticed in the British Magazine; particularly at Earl's Barton and Barton on the Humber.

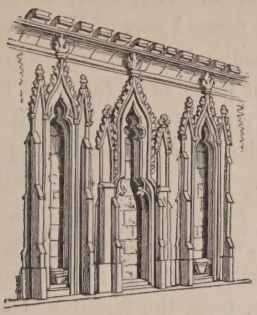
[f] This is now called the 'Welsh' aisle, from the number of members of Jesus college, natives of the principality, buried there.

to be that which now forms the western part of the south aisle. The porch attached to it was probably built at the same period.



THE PORCH.

John Archer, another rich burgess of Oxford, who died in 1524, and his wife, also gave lands for this purpose: their chapel appears to have been opposite to that of Odyham, and now forms the western part of the north aisle. The history of the whole church is thus ascertained in an unusually complete manner, with the exception of the Lady chapel, on the north side of the chancel, which being mentioned at the time of the erection of the first chapel by D. Burewald, must be nearly cotemporary with the original building: although the windows and the three very elegant niches at the east end clearly indicate that it has been much altered since, if not entirely rebuilt. Some great repairs and additions seem to have been made about the time of Richard II; whose bust, with that of Isabella his queen, is seen in good preservation, terminating the label of the east window on the outside. Of these three niches, the central one is the largest; but they are all three of very



THREE NICHES IN THE LADY CHAPEL.

elegant workmanship. Near these niches is a plain piscina of earlier character; indicating that there was formerly an altar here. In the chancel we find also a piscina, and sedilia for the three officiating ministers. There are several other niches still remaining in other parts of the church and porch; all of them elegant in form and workmanship: we regret to add, that one was destroyed when the north chapel was rebuilt by Mr. Plowman in 1833. The screen, which formerly supported the roodloft, still remains at the entrance into the chancel; and there is another screen to the north.

This parish is bounded on the north by that of St. Mary Magdalene, on the south by St. Martin's, All Saints', and St. Mary's, on the east by St. Peter's in the East, and on the west by St. Peter le Bailey and St. Thomas's. It includes a part of Lincoln and Brase Nose colleges, of the Schools, and of the Clarendon building: the whole of Jesus and Exeter colleges, the Museum, and the Theatre.

It contains 155 houses; and the population, by the census of 1831, was 971. The annual value of property rated to the poor is about 8000*l.*; but this does not include the colleges and public buildings, which are exempt from poor-rates.

The streets in this parish have been little altered, excepting in name; but in this respect there has been considerable change. Broad street was formerly called Canditch and Horsemonger lane, from a fair for horses which was held here, as we have mentioned in our

account of Magdalene parish. Ship lane, which originally ran close to and under the city wall, formed part of the lane which completely encompassed the city immediately within the wall, and was called by different names in different parts, after the most important persons who resided in it, and other circumstances: thus Ship lane, which derives its present name from the Ship inn, and both perhaps from the *sheep* market, was called Dewy's lane, from the family of de Ou, de Ewe, or Dewy. It was also called Burewald's lane, from Dionysia Burewald, who resided in it, and left several tenements in it for the support of her chapel before mentioned; afterwards Somnore's lane, or corruptly Summer lane, from the family of Somnore, which was of importance here in the reign of Henry VIII; and Laurence Hall lane, from a hall which stood near the east end of it. St. Michael's lane seems to be its proper designation. From the Turl, or Turl gate, this lane was continued to Smith-gate and Cat street, and was anciently called Cornwall lane and Exeter lane, passing between the city wall and the principal front of that college which then faced the north. Thence it was continued by the side of Duke Humphrey's library and the Divinity school; and was finally stopped up about the time when the present schools and Exeter chapel were built.

The Turl appears to have been known by the same appellation from a very early period; but there has been considerable controversy as to the origin of the name. Some consider it as a corruption of Torald, the name of a family of note in Oxford in the thirteenth century; others, as a genuine Saxon word, signifying a narrow passage or gate; one of the smaller gates or posterns of the city having been situated here: for it is not more than forty years since the present handsome street was built; previous to which period it was a very narrow passage, with steps descending from the Broad street into it. The street leading from the Turl to the High street is now commonly called by the same name; but within a few years was called Lincoln College lane, and formerly Silver street; either because it was chiefly occupied by the craft of silversmiths, or by corruption from some of the family of Silvester.

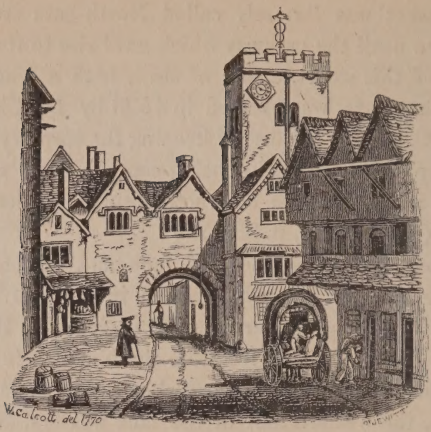
The Market lane, or Jesus College lane, leading from the Corn-market, or North-gate street, to Lincoln college, was formerly called Cheney lane, probably from a family of that name. Mildred lane, now generally called Brase Nose College lane, led from the Schools to St. Mildred's church; and passed through the churchyard; Cheney lane being a continuation of it. Wood's Annals, vol. II. p. 751; and Liber Niger Scaccarii, p. 588.)

The Cornmarket was formerly called North-gate street, and retained that name until the gateway which gave rise to it was removed. In the middle of this street, a sort of shed, with a leaden roof supported on stone pillars, was erected in 1536 by Dr. Claymund, president of C. C. C. for the purpose of keeping the corn dry: the custom of bringing samples only to market being comparatively a modern one. This shed was removed as an obstruction to the street early in the last century. (See Peshall, p. 333.)

New Inn lane was called Bedford lane and Adynton lane after families of note in their day who resided in it; also Wood street, from a custom of laying timber there, for which W. Brampton was indicted in 7th Henry IV. It led from the North gate to the Castle trench; but when the return of peaceable times made the castle of less importance, the western half of the lane was laid out in gardens, and afterwards built upon.

The lane leading from New Inn lane to the church of St. Peter le Bailey, now called New Inn Hall lane, was formerly called 'The lane of the seven deadly sins;' 'but for what reason,' says Wood, 'I cannot find.' (See Peshall, p. 185–6.)

The Halls in this parish were very numerous; but are nearly all included in the site of colleges and public buildings. Great and Little White hall, the one situated upon and the other under the city wall, were united under one principal, W. Gudere, in 1450. The bastion, or tower, at the back of Mr. Prior's house in Ship lane, formed part of one of them, and a rent was paid for it to the city. Elme hall was situated at the east end of St. Michael's churchyard, and at the opposite end a house was built against the tower by Stephen de Adynton, mayor, 12th Edward III; the ground being claimed by the corporation as part of their fee-farm. There was an old house standing in this situation until within the last fifty years. Opposite to the church there still remains an old stone building, which is very frequently mentioned in the parish accounts as 'the great house built of freestone,' being on the site of a tenement given by Dionysia Burewald in 1260 for the support of her chantry. It was rebuilt in the reign of Henry VI; and Wood says, 'the fabric both within and without had the shape of a little college, but being deserted with divers other inns and halls upon the falling out of conflicts between the scholars and townsmen, it came to be an habitation for lay persons, who made it a brewhouse, and afterwards a common inn.' The building now standing appears to be a portion of this fabric. A small quitrent is still annually paid to the churchwardens for it.



SOUTH VIEW OF BOCARDO 1770, AFTER MALCHAIR.

At the end of North-gate street, and nearly adjoining to the tower of St. Michael's church, stood[k] the celebrated Bocardo, the principal north gate of the city, which was more strongly fortified than any of the other gates, having no river before it to assist in the defence, as was the case with all the others. When the fortifications fell into disuse, the room over the gateway, which had in early times served as a muniment room[1], was applied to the purpose of a common prison, principally for debtors. There are persons yet living who remember it as such, and also an ancient custom of the debtors

[k] This gate was sold by the city to the commissioners of the paving act in 1771, for 306*l.* and was pulled down the same year, being considered as an obstruction to the street. (See Peshall, p. 198.)

[1] This may account for the *lumpy* silver coin of Athens found in a recess there when the gate was demolished; for though the original work was of the most remote antiquity, and is mentioned in the eighth century, yet it appears to have been partly rebuilt 4 Ed. II, and some additions made 41 Ed. III. The lions and eagles carved on the stones, instead of being traced to Æneas, Brutus, Locrinus, or Belinus, may be explained by a reference to the royal arms of the Norman race of our kings, and to those of the early dukes of Cornwall; who had mansions in this neighbourhood, and may have repaired the gate.

E.Mackenzie. J.Le Keux.

BROAD STREET.

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letting down a hat or purse by a cord from the window to receive the charity of the passers by. But this place has derived its chief renown, and will ever be memorable, as the place of confinement of the glorious martyrs, Cranmer, Latimer, and Ridley, previous to their execution. This took place in the open space between Balliol college and the city wall. Latimer and Ridley were first executed; and Cranmer is said to have ascended to the top of the tower, in which he was confined, to witness their execution; where he openly kneeled down, and prayed for them. Shortly afterwards he was called upon to share their fate on the same spot, which is said by tradition to be precisely indicated by one of the bastions of the wall still remaining, immediately under which the stake is said to have been fixed[m].

BASTION OF THE CITY WALL; FROM THE GARDEN OF MISS HOSKYNS, 1834.

The fortifications of the city, of which this gate formed a prominent part, are distinctly mentioned on several occasions by the Saxon his-

[m] See our account of Magdalene Parish, p. 11.

torians; and from their regular plan, combined with other circumstances, there is reason to suppose that they were of Roman origin: but without entering into this question we proceed to point out the present remains of them in this parish, which are considerable. Commencing beyond the western extremity of the parish at Broken-hayes the wall remains nearly perfect for several hundred yards, between the houses in George lane and New Inn lane; and may be traced as far as the Cornmarket to the site of Bocardo. Thence following the line, there are considerable remains between the houses in Ship lane and Broad street, of which we have given a specimen, and it may be clearly traced to the Turl; again on the opposite side in the premises of Exeter college, though partly built upon; where is a gateway with rustic work inserted in it in rather a singular manner, with the city arms carved in stone above. We then trace it to the Museum; which, as well as the Theatre, stands partly on the site of it. Along the whole of this line the 'clear' stream of Canditch, so often mentioned, formerly flowed. It is now, for the most part, arched over; and probably retains little of its former purity and clearness. The next points are Smith-gate and St. Catharine's chapel, mentioned in our account of St. Peter's in the East, page 16.

OLD BUILDINGS IN CARTER'S PASSAGE, HIGH STREET, 1834.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH.

Published Sept.1st 1834. by J.H.Parker Oxford: C.Tilt. Fleet St.t London. & J. Le Keux Harmondsworth.

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ALL SAINTS'.

THE early history of this church is connected with that of St. Michael and the demolished church of St. Mildred. The first mention of it is in 1122, when it was given or confirmed by king Henry I. to the canons of St. Frideswide along with the two other churches before mentioned. In 1190 Hugh, bishop of Lincoln, made it a vicarage, with a pension of 40*s.* to the said canons. This continued until the advowson was granted by the priory to Henry Burwash, or Burghersh, bishop of Lincoln, 20 Edward II; whose successors retained it until R. Fleming settled it upon his college; thus making it collegiate as well as parochial. To this original church numerous chapels and chantries were added by different benefactors; of which an account is preserved in Peshall's history from Wood's MSS. and the archives of the parish. The old church was so much injured by the fall of the spire in 1699, as to render it necessary to rebuild it entirely; and the present elegant structure was erected on the site from a design furnished by dean Aldrich [o]. The expense was defrayed by a general subscription, and a brief obtained in 1705; but the building was not completed until 1708, nine years after the fall of the old church.

The present church is generally admired, although not strictly correct according to the modern rules of art; for the tower and spire, though very elegant, exhibit in some degree a mixture of the Gothic and Grecian

[o] Henry Aldrich, D. D. dean of Christ Church, author of the popular treatise, entitled 'Elements of Civil Architecture,' and other works. The present church is a fair example of the style which he has described and wished to inculcate; but built of bad Headington stone.

styles. The body of the church is ornamented both within and without by pilasters of the Corinthian order over which is an attic story finished by a balustrade[p].

The altar-piece of stone, coloured to imitate marble, was the gift of bishop Crew, and cost 500*l*. The interior of the tower on the ground floor is fitted up as a vestry room, and in the centre is a table-tomb to the memory of the late Dr. Tatham, rector of Lincoln college, who is buried beneath, according to the directions of his will. In the upper part of the tower are five bells. The roof of this church has been much admired for its large span without the support of pillars: the ceiling is handsomely ornamented with fretwork; round the sides are painted the arms of the different benefactors who contributed to the building, amongst whom were queen Anne, who gave the timber; the duchess of Marlborough, who paved it at her own expense; bishop Crew, before mentioned; sir J. Walter, bart. who gave the glass for the windows; the earls of Abingdon and Guilford; the bishops of Durham, Oxford, Bristol, and Carlisle; the university, the separate colleges, and the city; and many private gentlemen[q]: but almost the whole of these are unfortunately at so great a height as not to be distinguished without a glass. A gallery has been recently erected at the west end of the church: which is better managed than such excrescences generally are.

This parish is small, containing only eighty-six houses and 560 inhabitants: the annual value of property rated to the poor is about 6000*l*. exclusive of the market, the shops in which are valued at 1300*l*. more. It extends on the north to St. Michael's parish, taking in the greater part of Lincoln college and of the market; on the south to Christ Church; on the east to St Mary's parish; and on the west to St. Martin's or Carfax parish. In this space is included a part of the two ancient parishes of St. Edward and St. Mildred; the whole site of the latter being now occupied by colleges and public buildings: it was united with All Saints' in the reign of Henry V, and the church incorporated with Lincoln college.

[p] The dimensions are 72 feet long, 42 wide, and 50 high.

[q] Peshall, p. 42.

This church, dedicated to St. Mildred, the daughter of one of the Saxon kings [r], was given to the church of St. Frideswide at its first foundation; which was the case with several other churches in Oxford: its subsequent history is precisely the same with that of St. Michael's and All Saints', until they were all united; and this being no longer wanted was pulled down. It is mentioned in the ancient statutes of the university, and congregations were formerly held in it. The ground on which it stood is now occupied by part of the buildings of Lincoln college.

St. Edward's church [s], dedicated to king Edward the martyr, who died in 979, was situated between the High street and the gardens of Christ Church, near the lane which is now called Bear lane. It is singular that we have no record of the precise period when this church was destroyed, and its parish divided between All Saints' and St. Aldate's: but the church appears to have been always a very poor one; and even with the chapelry of Binsey which belonged to it was not considered as worth taxing at the general taxation in 1291. As no mention is made of it at the time of the building of Christ Church, it must have been destroyed previously to that period: Wood says about 300 years since; which would give, from his time, nearly the same date with the destruction of St. Mildred's.

The streets in this parish have already been partially mentioned in describing those of St. Michael's [t]. St. Edward's lane, now called Bear lane, from the Bear inn

[r] Daughter of Merivall, the son of Penda, king of the Mercians. Wood ap. Peshall, p. 94. on the authority of the registers of St. Frideswide, to which Wood had access.

[s] Peshall, p. 116—118.

[t] P. 6.

which stood at the corner in the High street, formerly led to St. Frideswide's church, but now only into another lane called Blue-boar lane, from the Blue-boar inn which stood at the corner of it in St. Aldate's. This latter was once divided into Tresham lane, which led from St. Edward's lane into Fish street, now St. Aldate's, and Schirburne lane, which led into Schidiard street, now called St. Mary Hall lane, or Oriel lane.

Halls.—These have been very numerous in this parish, if we include the two decayed parishes now incorporated with it; but we must here enumerate only those which are not included in the site of any college, and of which some vestiges remain. Broadgates hall, one of three which bore the same name in different parishes, was situated in the site of the court called Amsterdam, at the extremity of this parish towards St. Mary's. This was formerly a place of considerable importance, containing within the gates, from which it took its name, a chapel and various buildings for scholars, and possessed extraordinary privileges; being a sanctuary or asylum for all petty offenders against the law, and even for manslaughter; as appears from the case of J. Parry, a tailor, in 1463, who, having stabbed a man, and being in fear of his life, fled for refuge to this place, and was allowed the benefit of it. This privilege was retained until 1530, the period of the reformation; from which we may conclude that it was originally granted by the pope, in common with most others of the same description. This hall was pulled down in 1661, and there are now scarcely any remains of it to be traced.

Stodeley's inn, or hall, stood in the high street immediately opposite to the door of the church. An arched doorway, and a few other slight remains, may still be seen in the houses on the site of it.

At the western corner of the lane before mentioned as St. Edward's or Bear lane, was an ancient hall, called Parn hall, given to the monastery of St. Frideswide by Christian le Rus, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry III. It was afterwards called Taberd's inn, and Furres inn, and lastly the Bear inn, by which name it was known until within the last thirty years, when the whole premises were rebuilt and divided into several private houses.

Kempe hall was situated in the High street, opposite the market-place, and nearly, if not exactly, on the site of the Chequers inn: there are various remains of old building in the houses on and about this spot; (see p. 16.) and at the back of them is a detached building in

good preservation in the Elisabethan style, with a good deal of carved-work on the staircase, ceilings, &c. (See p. 10.) It bears the date in one part of 1611, and in another of 1637. About the first named period king James I. and his court paid several visits to Oxford, an account of which will be found at length in Wood's Annals; and another by Hearne, in his edition of Leland's Collectanea, vol. II. pp. 626—647. Charles I. was also, as is well known, a great patron of this university; and the numerous buildings which we find in various parts of the city of about this date, seem to attest that it was then in a very flourishing condition. Wood states that the number of scholars in the year 1605, when the king paid his first visit to the university, was 2254. (Annals, by Gutch, vol. II. p. 285.)

The present market-place, erected under the act of parliament of 1771 for improving the city, was built from a design of Gwyn[x]. It is tolerably commodious, though not ornamental. Great improvements have been made in it of late years, and it is now one of the best supplied and best regulated markets in the kingdom. Previously to the period of its erection a number of markets for different products were held in various parts of the city, all of which are now merged in this general one, with the exception of the Corn-market; which it has been attempted to remove to the space under the Town hall, but hitherto without success. On the site of the present market were the Apothecaria and Spiceria, or market for drugs and spices. Also several halls; amongst them one near the Mitre inn, called Burwaldscote hall, named after Roger Burwaldscote, archdeacon of Wilts, and rector of Tackley in 1245[y].

St. Edward's hall, and St. Edward's school, including the 'Great Civil Law school,' and the 'Great school of the Canon Law,' or 'Canon school,' were situated near

[x] For a minute history of the markets and fairs here of former days the reader is referred to Peshall, pp. 329—338.

[y] Peshall, p. 48.

the church of the same name[z]. These schools were in ancient times of considerable importance and much frequented[a], but they had fallen into decay in the early part of the fifteenth century. About the year 1489 the university made great efforts to have them restored, and some of the most eminent persons of that time contributed to the repair of the buildings, but the school never appears to have flourished much after this period. At the reformation it fell into the hands of the laity, and was soon afterwards entirely destroyed.

OLD HOUSES IN THE HIGH STREET, 1834.

[z] See Wood's Annals, by Gutch, vol. III. pp. 739—741. 768—770. and Peshall, p. 117.

[a] Being used by the Dominicans or Black Friars at their first coming to Oxford in 1221. When they translated their mansion into the south suburbs, in 1259, these schools were used by members of the university, who read the canon or civil law in them. Wood's Annals, vol. II. part ii. p. 739.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

ST MARTINS CHURCH
CARFAX.

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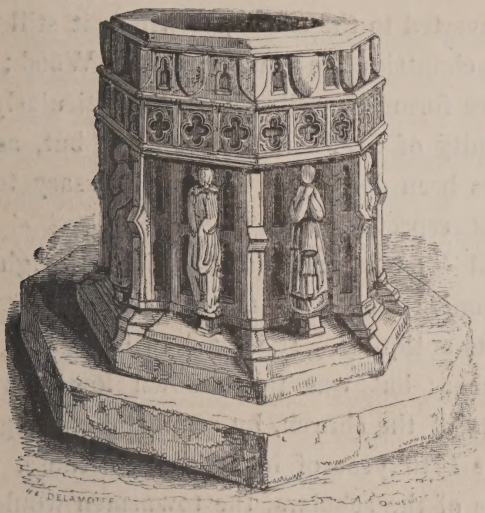


THE FONT[a].

St. Martin's Church, or Carfax.

THE foundation of this church is of great antiquity, and, according to Wood, 'beyond all record.' The saint in whose name it was dedicated, was bishop of Tours, in France, and died in 399. The advowson originally belonged to the crown; and was given by Canute the Dane, with the manors of Great and Little Linford in Buckinghamshire, and other revenues, to the Benedictines of St. Mary at Abingdon, about 1032[b]. It was

[a] This ancient Font has been preserved, though in rather a mutilated state: it appears to be of the fourteenth century, and has been a rich specimen of the style prevalent at that period.

[b] In the Abingdon Register in the British Museum, partly transcribed by Wood, is preserved the Danish monarch's charter of dona-

confirmed to them successively by pope Eugenius III, Hugh, bishop of Lincoln, and pope Innocent III, between 1147 and 1202; and remained in their possession until the dissolution of monasteries in the 37th Henry VIII. when it reverted to the crown, to which it still belongs[c].

Several chantries are enumerated by Wood; some of which were formerly well endowed, particularly that of the fraternity of St. John the Baptist; but, as the old church has been destroyed, it is unnecessary to go into any details respecting them[d].

The old TOWER remains; which, though it does not harmonize well with the modern church, is venerable for its antiquity. It is said to have been formerly much higher; but was taken down lower, with some other parts of the church, by command of king Edward III. in the 14th year of his reign; 'because, upon the complaints of the scholars, the townsmen would in time of combat with them retire there as to their castle, and from thence gall and annoy them with arrows and stones.'

The original NAVE of the church had become so much decayed, that a few years since it was thought necessary to pull it entirely down and rebuild it. Of the present structure Messrs. Harris and Plowman of Oxford were both the architects and builders. The expense was defrayed chiefly by public subscription, to

tion; which is a curious specimen of inflated Dano-Saxon Latinity. The church is called 'Monasteriolum,' a little *minster*, because it was served by the monastic clergy; as the majority of churches then were.

[c] V. Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. i. p. 107; Peshall, pp. 174—6.

[d] An attempt was made to revive the chantry of St. Thomas the Martyr 1 and 2 Philip and Mary; but in 1 Eliz. we find this item in the parish accounts: 'For blacking out of St. Thomas his altar 6*d*.' &c. Wood's MSS. D. 2, 49.

which the University as a body, and most of the colleges, contributed liberally. The corporation of the city gave as a first subscription 600*l.* and nearly all its members subscribed individually. The late sir Edward Hitchings, knt. during whose mayoralty the edifice was completed, gave, in addition to a previous donation, fifty guineas towards the reparation and improvement of the organ, and another fifty was given by the corporation for the same purpose [e]. The first stone of the new church was laid on the 23rd of October 1820, and it was opened for divine service on the 16th of June 1822.

The rectory [f] appears to have been always a very poor one, as at the general taxation, 20 Edward I. 1291, it was valued at five marks only. Peshall says that in his time, 'with the queen's bounty obtained, it was worth but 27*l.*' per annum. At present it is worth little more than 100*l.*

The PARISH is of small extent[g], and is bounded on the

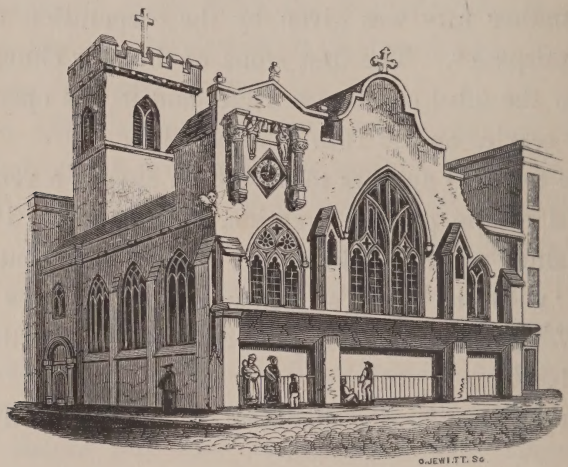
[e] New Oxford Guide, 1834, p. 128.

[f] Besides the rector, there are also four lecturers, who are appointed by the mayor, recorder, aldermen, and assistants of the city. These were well endowed in 1778 by the liberality of Robert earl of Litchfield, and of Wm. Wickham, esq. one of the assistants: the former having assigned 1000*l.* on trust, his trustees invested that sum in the purchase of ten shares, of 100*l.* each, in the Oxford canal navigation; and the latter gave five other shares in the same canal, as an addition to the fund, for the same uses, the annual dividend on which amounts now to nearly 600*l.* Two lecturers were appointed so early as 1578; with an annual stipend of twenty marks. See Wood's Annals by Gutch, vol. ii. p. 194.

There is a reader appointed by the dean of Christ Church, and paid 20*l.* a year from a fund bequeathed by bishop Fell for a lecturer to read prayers daily in a church in Oxford.

[g] It is remarkable that this small parish has given birth to several eminent authors. Sir William Davenant, called 'the Sweet Swan of Isis,' was son of John Davenant, a vintner, who kept a tavern for-

north by St. Michael's, south by St. Aldate's, east by All Saints', and west by St. Peter le Baily. In 1771 it contained seventy-six houses; in 1833 the number had decreased to seventy: the population was then only four hundred and ninety; the annual value of property rated to the poor about 5,400*l.*



THE OLD CHURCH, SHEWING THE SITUATION OF PENNYLESS BENCH.

Attached to the east end of the old church was Pennyless bench, chiefly known to modern readers by T. Warton's

merly called the Crown Inn, near Carfax Church, now the residence of Mrs. Purbrick: he was born there in February, 1605. The learned Chillingworth, author of the Religion of Protestants a safe way to Salvation, &c. was born 1602 in a small house near the north-west corner of the High street, admitted fellow of Trinity College in 1628, and died in 1643. He left to the mayor and corporation 400*l.* to be lent in sums of 50*l.* to poor young tradesmen: but from the confusion of the civil wars only 20*l.* of this sum was ever received. John Underhill, bishop of Oxford from 1589 to 1592, was also a native of this parish; being born in the Cross Inn. The learned Nicholas Lloyd, fellow of Wadham, was rector of the parish in 1665.

humorous description of it in his 'Companion to the Guide and Guide to the Companion:' but Wood informs us, 'that here the mayor and his brethren met occasionally on public affairs,' probably when proclamations were to be made. This bench is mentioned in the parish accounts in the 37th Henry VIII, and was then either first erected or entirely rebuilt; it was again rebuilt with a shed over it supported on stone pillars, which were afterwards removed, and a sort of alcove substituted for them, as shewn in our engraving. In 1747 it was represented to the city council that 'the old Butter-bench, otherwise Pennyless bench, was a great nuisance, being an harbour for idle and disorderly people:' and it was then ordered to be immediately taken down. The site of it continues to be a favourite loitering place to this day, and it is still the custom for labourers out of employment to wait about this spot for the chance of being hired.

On the south side of the church, but separated from it by the street, is the present Butter-bench [h], as it is still called, though it has long ceased to be used for the purpose which its name indicates; the new market having removed the necessity for the stations of particular trades, formerly so numerous in Oxford, of which the name is frequently retained long after the use has passed away.

Nearly in the centre of the four streets which meet at

[h] On the site of this Butter-bench formerly stood a tavern, called at different periods by the names of the Mermaid and Swyndlestock. It was in this tavern on the feast of St. Scholastica the virgin, Feb. 10, 1354, that the great conflict between the University and city originated in a quarrel between John de Croydon the vintner, or landlord of the tavern, and some scholars who were drinking wine there: for a full account of which see Wood's Annals by Gutch, I. pp. 456—473. Beneath this spot and some adjoining premises, and also part of the street, some very ancient and extensive vaults are still in existence, now in the occupation of Mr. W. Butler, wine merchant.

this point, stood the celebrated structure called Carfax[i] conduit: built in 1610 by Otho Nicholson, esq. of Christ Church, for the purpose of supplying the different colleges and halls, as well as private houses, with water which was brought in pipes from the side of a hill above the village of North Hinksey, at an expense of 2500*l.* This conduit was a very magnificent structure according to the taste of the period in which it was built; but for a detailed description of it, and of its use, we refer our readers to other works[k] which could better admit the space required. Within a very few years after its erection it was presented as a nuisance to the chancellor, archbishop Laud, on account of the obstruction which it offered to the carriage way, but it was allowed to stand until the year 1787; when it was taken down and presented by the university and city to the earl of Harcourt, who caused it to be reconstructed in his park at Nuneham, where it still remains. (See p. 16.)

THE OLD TOWN HALL, OR DOMUS CONVERSORUM.

[i] See the engraving and note p. 16. The usual derivation of the word Carfax, which is commonly applied, not only to the conduit but to the church and parish, is from 'Quatre-voies,' *quadrivium*, from the four main streets of the city meeting at this point.

[k] Peshall, pp. 17—20; Gent. Mag. for December 1771; Wade's Walks, Part II. p. 268, 269; though the paging is confused.

The TOWN HALL. We find mention of a public guild, 'Gilda,' for the burgesses of Oxford, in the reign of Hen. II. When that king confirmed to them 'Gildam Mercatoriam,' they procured means, says Wood, to have an ancient hall, called Battes, or Baptist, or Jews' hall [1], situated nearly opposite to the present town-hall, converted into a Guild-hall, for their public meetings after church-service, seeing that their old portmote in St. Martin's churchyard was too little to contain their fraternity. But they did not long use this hall for their portmote; having removed soon afterwards to the 'Domus Conversorum,' or house of converts, the site of the present town hall; which had also been the property of the Jews, and having fallen to the crown by escheat, was granted to the burgesses by king Henry III: in consideration of which, together with a renewal of the charter, 'pro Gilda Mercatoria,' and other liberties, a fine of 100*l.* was levied among them. This house having previously been appointed for the abode of the converts from the Jewish persuasion, several other tenements in the parish paid also a rent to the 'Domus Conversorum' in London.

As soon as the burgesses had obtained possession of this site they built a hall upon it, first of one story, afterwards of two, the lower room being converted into two taverns in the beginning of Edward II; the keepers thereof to pay an annual rent for them to the city: a custom

[1] Peshall, p. 158. 'This hall,' says Wood, 'was inhabited by clerks, or scholars, at or near the Norman conquest: being then owned, with divers other halls and tenements in this parish, by the Jews of Oxon.' At a subsequent period it became an inn by the name of the Fleur de lis: and was once the property of Antony a Wood. In modern days it has been known by the name of Grafton house, by which it is still distinguished. A little to the south of this was Clare hall, afterwards called Fishmongers' hall, which is also mentioned as belonging to Elias, the son of Basseve, a Jew, in the reign of Henry III.

which has been continued to the present day. But this old hall having become ruinous was taken down in 1751, and entirely rebuilt, partly[m] at the expense of Thomas Rowney, esq., then one of the representatives of the city in parliament, and a liberal benefactor on several occasions.

Attached to the north end of it is the council chamber; a fine old room, which was preserved when the present town hall was built: it contains some good portraits, but is now in a bad state of repair. Beneath the council chamber is the mayor's court, and the city audit room: on the east side of the area is the town clerk's office; and on the south side a large school-room, built in 1658, by John Nixon, esq. alderman of Oxford, a native of Blechingdon in this county. He endowed it for the maintenance of a schoolmaster who was to receive 30*l.* per annum, and to teach forty freemen's sons, reading, writing, and arithmetic. His wife Joan, at her death, left lands in Blechingdon, for apprenticing two of these boys annually.

THE STAR COACH-OFFICE.

[m] It appears by the city books, that in 1751 'Mr. Thomas Rowney agreed to take down and rebuild both the Town halls, he receiving the old materials and 1300*l.* heretofore given by several well disposed persons.' The work was finished July 11, 1752.

HALLS—Immediately to the north of the Town hall was Knapp hall; mentioned so early as the reign of William the Conqueror as belonging to one Ermanold, a burgess of Oxford, by whom it was given to Abingdon abbey in 1104: it is again specified in the confirmation of their charter by pope Eugenius III. in 1152 [n]; was subsequently known by the name of the Falcon inn and the Castle inn; but appears to have been from a very early period a 'receptacle for clerks,' or an academical hall. It is now occupied by Mr. William Butler, wine merchant. 'Underneath it,' says Wood [o], 'was an ancient and deep vault, curiously arched with stone, like to divers halls and religious places in this city in old time.' This vault is still in existence, 1835. Merston hall, so called from J. de Merston, burgess and mayor in the year 1400, afterwards Coventry hall, from Thomas Coventry, mayor in the reign of Henry V, was situated on the site of the Roebuck inn, partly in this parish and partly in St Michael's; the back premises having extended at that time into Cheney lane, as they do at the present day into the same lane, now called Market lane. This explains what Wood calls a seeming contradiction [p]. Near it was Mauger or Malgar hall, so called from a family of that name who resided here within a few years after the Norman conquest, and were of importance in the reigns of king Stephen and Richard I. The first mention of it as an academical hall, is in a charter about the year 1234; and Walter de Merton had his education here [q]. The premises were formerly very large, and are still extensive, being now occupied as the Cross inn. It is called 'Gynger Inne' in the Valor Ecclesiasticus of Henry VIII. ii. 256; from W. Gyngyner, who was the owner of it 37th Edw. iij. There was anciently a quitrent of 6*s.* 11*d.* due from this tenement to the honour of Wallingford. The property belongs to New College; having been purchased by William of Wykeham of king Richard II. to whom it had escheated by the attainder of sir Robert Tresilian, knt., who had been found guilty of 'divers felonies and treasons against the king [r].' Adjoining to it on the south side was Somner's inn, originally a part of it, but afterwards a distinct hall, probably the same with Sorrel hall.

[n] Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. i. p. 107. [o] Peshall, p. 111.

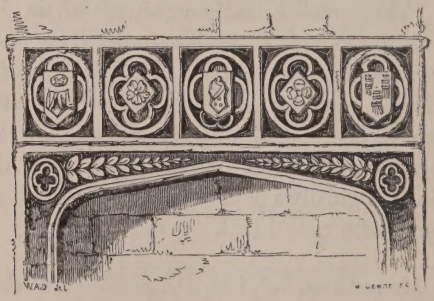
[p] Peshall, p. 36; see also our account of St. Michael's Parish. There is an engraving of Coventry hall in Mr. Skelton's Oxonia, from one of the drawings of ancient halls in the Bodleian.

[q] See our account of Merton college, note c. p. 3.

[r] Wood ap. Peshall, p. 37. Ibid. pp. 183–4. Vid. New College Registers.

Nearly opposite to these was Perry hall, called also Drapery hall[s], being situated in the Drapery, or place set apart for the drapers, according to the custom before mentioned. This hall is mentioned in the 26th Edward III. There are still some remains of an academical hall: particularly a spacious chimney-piece in good preservation, with the arms of New College, and those of the incorporated companies of merchant tailors and drapers, enriched with colours; of which we have given an engraving; some finely carved oak wainscoting; and a large window of the time of James I, &c. Within a few years the buttery hatch and kitchen might be distinctly traced; and a staircase of stone is still visible.

The Marshall's inn, or hall for clerks, was the last house in the parish in this direction, and with the King's Head afterwards became part of the Star inn, being situated on the site of the present coach-office: but it continued to be used by scholars even after this union; for a principal of the Star inn, or hall, occurs in the registers in 1512. The richly carved wooden gables of the house which now (1835) occupies this site, and of which we have given an engraving, p. 8, have attracted the attention of the antiquary and the architect; as well as some others in the parish, particularly those in this neighbourhood and in the High street. Though much obscured by repeated coats of whitewash, there is still enough to shew, that they would have been worthy of a place in the beautifully executed works of the late Mr. Pugin; whose loss, it is to be feared, is almost irreparable.



ANCIENT CHIMNEY-PIECE.

[s] In the middle of the street, between the Cross inn and Perry hall, a shed, with a leaden roof supported by stone pillars, to preserve the corn from wet, was built in 1536 by Dr. Claymund, President of Corpus.—V. Peshall, p. 333. Here formerly stood the pillory.

ST. PETER LE BAILY; OR, IN THE WEST.

THE foundation of this church, anciently called a 'monasterium,' like that of St. Martin and several others in Oxford, is beyond the reach of any records.

It belonged of old time to the prior and convent of St. Frideswide, and was one of the many churches confirmed to them by king Henry I. in 1122. Several chapels and chantries were added by different benefactors; for an account of which we must refer to Wood[z], as the old church is no longer in existence.

The ancient fabric fell down in 1726: but the present building was not completed until 1740; great difficulty being experienced in raising the necessary funds in the parish. A brief was obtained in 1727; but it produced little money: and of this, together with the rates, being found insufficient, the deficiency was supplied by subscription. Dr. Hole, rector of Exeter college, gave 100*l.* the earl of Abingdon 50*l.* and T. Rowney, esq. 50*l.* Mrs. Bowel gave the altar, and sir Thomas Munday the font. Daniel Flexney, a carpenter, erected the gallery at his own charges. About 1770 the four bells were sold for raising the tower; but this design was not carried into execution. It is scarcely possible to conceive any thing more heavy than the whole church[a].

[z] Ap. Peshall, p. 169; where four are enumerated.

[a] The renovated brass to the memory of sir William Loughborough, alias Northern, and dame Margaret his wife, was preserved by the care of Mr. Alderman Fletcher, and in 1772 affixed to the wall at the east end of the present church. The inscription upon it is, 'To the immortal names of William Northern, maior of this citie at the coronation of Richard II; and Dame Margaret his wife; interred both under the next marble 1383. The ever loyal citie Oxford renewe their acknowlegement to stand a perpetual mark of honour to so an-

At an early period this church was one of the most wealthy and flourishing in Oxford, being generally served by the Minorite friars, who were favourite preachers, and had a high reputation for sanctity; so that the money received for confessions alone amounted to a large sum: but before the reformation it had sunk into insignificance and poverty. At the dissolution of monasteries the advowson fell to the crown, and still continues in the royal gift.

The PARISH is bounded on the north by St. Michael's; east by St. Martin's, near the Cross Keys; south by St. Ebbe's; and west by St. Thomas's. In 1771 it contained 113 houses. In 1833 they had increased to 234, with a population of 1236, and the annual value of property rated to the poor was about 4,500*l.*

There were anciently three or four streets distinguished by the same name as the parish. The Great Baily[b], which extended from St. Martin's to St. Peter's church, was divided by a row of butchers' stalls or shops, afterwards called the Butcher row, now generally Queen street. The North Baily comprised a part of the lane now called New Inn Hall lane. The Little Baily was the street which leads

cient benefactors 1667.' The original inscription of 1383 is preserved in Wood's MSS. and printed among Peshall's Inscriptions.

[b] The name of Baily, by which this church and parish are distinguished, is derived by Wood from Balliolum, a court of justice, which he says stood here in the Saxon times. There is still a court at York called the Bailey, and the Old Bailey in London is familiar. But the word Balliolum itself is a diminutive of Ballium, a fort, castle, mound, or prison. In ancient documents it is called St. Peter 'ad castrum.' The word 'Baille' in French is often used for an entrenchment. The 'Magnum Balliolum,' of which Wood speaks, was situated near the west end of St. Martin's church, and in the churchyard, as appears from the register of Osney abbey, from which Wood gives this extract: 'In die S. Cuthberti in quadragesima facta fuit Portmanmot de Oxenford in Cœmeterio St. Martini,' &c. V. Peshall, pp. 158, 174.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

ST PETER LE BAILEY.

Published May 1st 1835, by J.H. Parker, Oxford, G. Pitt, Fleet St. London, & J. Le Keux, Harrow on the Hill.

from St. Peter's to St. Ebbe's church. The New Baily, the Lower Baily, or Castle street, was a continuation of the Great Baily, from the church to the ancient entrance of the castle; which was then on the south-west side opposite to the present entrance. A void plot of ground hereabout, consisting of two acres, called anciently the New Market, and used as a cattle market in the fourteenth century, falling into disuse in the reign of Henry VII. was let out in garden plots and afterwards built upon. V. Peshall, p. 160.

Frequent mention is made in old records of the mounts, sometimes called Jews' mount, which were thrown up at the time of the siege of King Stephen; and they are very distinctly marked on Agas's map, extending from near St. Peter's church to the river not far from Hithe bridge. These mounts were afterwards built upon; and the houses in Bullock's lane, so called from a person of that name who built there in 1588, together with the canal office, stand on part of them. V. Peshall, p. 167.

Several halls are enumerated by Twyne and Wood in this parish; few having contained more: but as almost all traces of them were destroyed by a great fire at the time that Oxford was besieged by the parliamentary forces, Wood's account of this fire may be more acceptable than any discussion about buildings of which so little remains.

October 6, 1644. 'Sunday, happened a dreadful fire in Oxford, such an one for the shortness of time wherein it burned, that all ages before could hardly parallel. It began about two of the clock in the afternoon, in a little poor house on the south side of Thames street, (now called George lane,) leading from the North Gate to the High Bridge, occasioned by a foot soldier roasting a pig which he had then stolen. The wind being very high and in the north, blew the flames southward very quick and strongly, and burnt all the stables and houses, except St. Mary's college, standing between the back part of those which reach from the North Gate to St. Martin's church on the east, and those in the North Baily, commonly called New Inn lane, on the west; then all the old houses in the Bocher's row, which stood between St. Martin's church and the church of St. Peter's the Baylie, among which was a printing house, and the Will Office, newly translated from London by his majesty's command, it totally consumed. From thence it flew over the gardens and back yards to Penny-farthing street, all which, except the east end, it burnt. From thence to Beef hall lane, leading from St. Aldate's to St. Ebbe's church, which lane also, except the east end, it consumed. From

thence to Slaying lane, and some other houses between St. Ebbe's church and Water gate, and between that gate to Preacher's bridge, which were all levelled with the ground, and then the fire ceased [e].'

One Hall however has escaped the ravages of the destructive fire before mentioned, being situated a little to the west of the line which it took, in the Little or Lower Baily, about a hundred yards to the west of the church, on the south side of the street. It belonged to Oseney abbey, afterwards to Exeter college; being mentioned in a register of 1438 by the name of White hall; 'Pro aula alba in parvo Balliolo, magister Glaydon,' &c. There is a drawing of it preserved in the Bodleian library among Gough's valuable collections; which has been engraved by Mr. Skelton in his Oxonia Antiqua Restaurata, but is erroneously placed by him in the High street, in the parish of St. Peter's *in the East* [f]; and supposed to be no longer in existence: but an engraving is here given of it, as it now appears [g], from an original drawing.

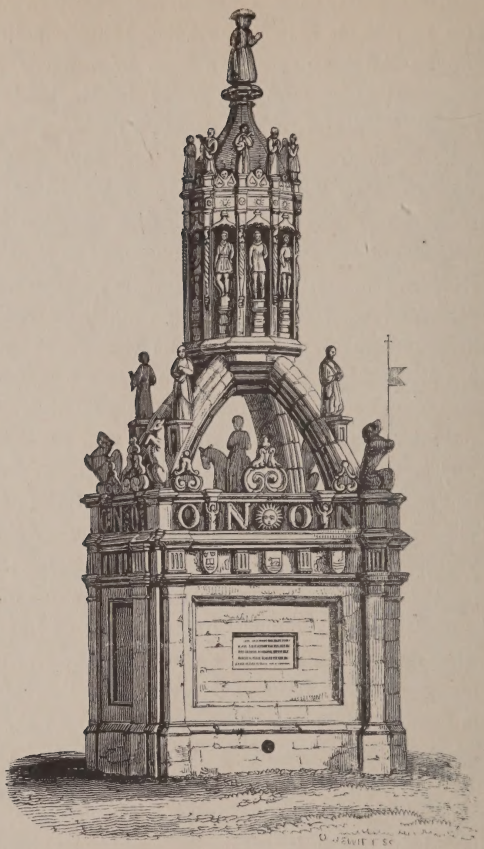
WHITE HALL; 1835.

[e] Annals, vol. ii. p. 473.

[f] This was a hall of the same name, situated between Queen's college and the east gate; near which were the halls of St. Catharine and St. George, as described by Wood, ap. Peshall, p. 74.

[g] One of the doorways appears to be of the 13th century. The other, though less ancient, has the arms of the Doilly family in one of the spandrels of the arch.

St. Mary's College, sometimes confounded with St. Mary Hall, was situated partly in this parish, and partly in St. Michael's. It was a place of considerable importance, being a college of regular canons of St. Augustine, and a sort of nursery for the novices of the several abbeys of that order in England. They had obtained a license from Henry V. to erect a building here, and purchase lands for this purpose; but that king dying suddenly, the license was confirmed by his successor Henry VI. in 1435, and considerable buildings were erected in the space between what is now called the Cornmarket and New Inn Hall lane. The land was granted by Thomas Holden, esq. and Elizabeth his wife; who were considered as the founders, and were buried in the chapel. Mention is made also of a library and a cloister. Various circumstances shew, that these buildings altogether must have attained to a considerable degree of magnificence, equal to that of most of our ancient colleges. The chapel in particular is repeatedly mentioned, and the materials of it were eventually used in the foundation of the chapel of Brasenose college in 1656. The college had acquired this property by exchange with Henry earl of Huntingdon, 22 Elizabeth. The celebrated Erasmus pursued his studies at this college in 1497-8; and bishop Ferrar, the martyr in queen Mary's reign, had been one of the regular canons. The last prior was Thomas Beele, bishop of Lydda, who was living in 1520. After the dissolution there were two principals; but the college being expressly founded for the education of the Augustinian monks, does not appear to have recovered from the blow which it received by the suppression of the monasteries, and therefore fell into decay after the year 1556. There are still several remains of old buildings in the space formerly occupied by the college, which must apparently have belonged to it; and the gateway, which led into the cloisters, is still to be seen in New Inn Hall lane. The house and garden belonging to the Regius Professor of Medicine occupy a part of the site. It was bounded on the south side by a wall, which ran parallel with Sewy's lane, in ancient records called Sewy-*twychen*. This wall still remains; but the lane has been partly stopped up. Its name implied, that it formed a communication *between* Northgate street (now the Cornmarket) and New Inn Hall lane. See more concerning this college in Wood ap. Peshall, 186-7, and MSS D. 2, 294; Tanner's Notitia Monastica, p. 400; Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. ii. p. 933; Stevens' Supplement, p. 2. 128-9.



See page 6.

This singular structure, as it stands in Nuneham park, with the surrounding scenery, forms the subject for the Oxford Almanack of 1833; and its original situation may be seen by an excellent engraving from the original by Donowell, in Mr. Skelton's Oxonia, fol. 128. In the upper part was a large reservoir for water, and there was another over the porch of the old church of All Saints'. The pipes continue in tolerable repair, and many houses in Oxford are still supplied with water from the spring on Hinksey hill, which is very copious and never fails. Pointer, in his Oxford Guide, 1749, p. 177, has given a very ludicrous explanation of the obvious cipher, O. N. the initials of Otho Nicholson. The *sun* is the family badge.

F Mackenzie.

J.Le Keux.

ST ALDATE'S CHURCH.

Published Sept.1st 1836 by J.H.Parker, Oxford; C.Tilt, Fleet St. London; & J.Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

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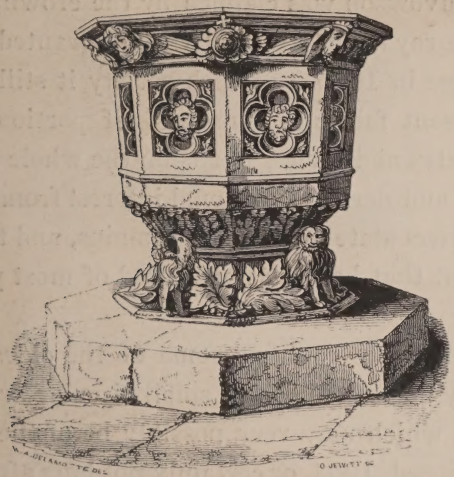


THE FONT [a].

St. Aldate's.

THE foundation of this church is of great antiquity. Wood supposes it to have been British, before the settlement of the Saxons or the Danes, and argues that neither of those people were likely to have built and dedicated a church in honour of one of their enemies; the saint whose name it bears being a Briton, who lived about 450, through whose means Hengist king of the Angles was defeated and killed[b]. Speed says it was founded or restored, probably rebuilt of stone, being previously of wood, in 1004. It subsequently belonged to

[a] This font is a very rich specimen of the style of the fourteenth century, and is in good preservation.

[b] Wood ap. Peshall, p. 144.

the abbey of Abingdon and the priory of St. Frideswide jointly, one moiety being confirmed to Abingdon by pope Eugenins III, in 1146[c], the other to St. Frideswide in 1122 by king Henry I.[d] At the dissolution of monasteries the advowson was claimed by the crown, and continued in the royal gift until Charles I. granted it to Pembroke college in 1636, to which society it still belongs.

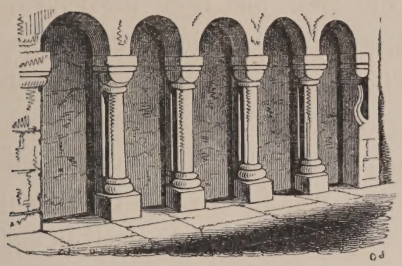
The present fabric is composed of portions of many different dates and styles, but is on the whole a venerable structure; and derives additional interest from the comparatively perfect state in which it remains, and the satisfactory account that has been preserved of most parts of the building.

THE CHANCEL contains some of the oldest portions, particularly an arcade of five small circular arches on the north side, which may very possibly be of the date mentioned by Speed, 1004, or certainly not long after the Norman Conquest. Over this arcade are the remains of two ancient windows, long since closed, and immediately to the east of them is a doorway of a later period, also closed. The east window is a modern repair, in bad imitation of

[c] Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. i. p. 107.

[d] For an amusing account of the manner in which these monks obtained their right over it, and their alternate presentations to the rectory, we must refer to Wood, (Peshall, p. 174.) who says that he derives his authority from the charters. It was called a 'Monasterium,' a term which we have before had occasion to observe was applied at that period to many churches belonging to monasteries, and served from them, as distinguished from those which were served by the secular clergy residing on their livings. This term has led Wood and others into the error of supposing that this church was connected with a seminary or place of education for these two monasteries. The 'Monasterium Aldati' of the Abingdon MSS. quoted by Wood and Tanner, from Twyne's Collectanea, appears to have no other foundation. Peshall, p. 145; Tanner's Notitia Monastica, p. 419.

the style of the fourteenth century. The roof has also been lowered, and is modern. The windows on the south side are square-headed, with perpendicular mullions relieved by some elegant tracery[e].



ARCADE IN THE CHANCEL.

THE NAVE presents no characteristic features; the roof being modern, and the arches on each side different, corresponding with the aisles to which they belong: it has however two noble arches, east and west, and two windows of different form and date. The south porch is a modern excrescence.

THE SOUTH AISLE, called the Trinity chapel in a rental of 1517, was built in the 9th of Edward III. by

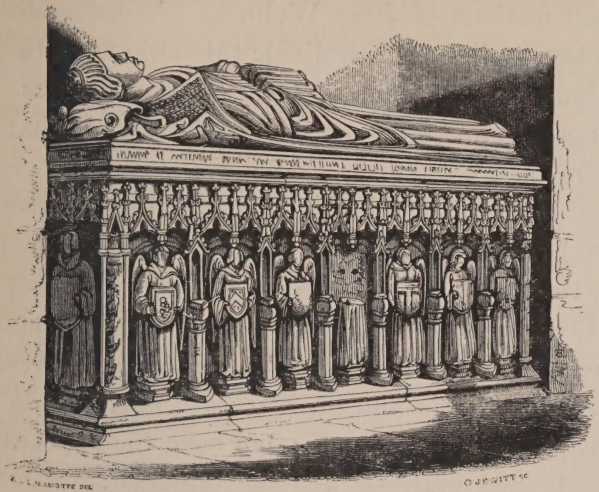
[e] On the north side of the altar is a very flat pointed arch of wide span, inserted under a circular-headed window now closed. The situation and form of this arch seem to indicate that it was used for the ceremony of representing Christ's resurrection from the holy sepulchre at Easter, a custom which is continued by the Roman Catholic church to the present day, and of which, traces are to be found in many of our old parish churches. A similar arch occurs in the same situation in St. Michael's and St. Giles's churches in Oxford; indeed few old churches of any magnitude are without them, although their use is not generally understood. (See Bloxam's Monumental Architecture, pp. 173–6.) On the south side of the chancel is a small chapel built in 1674 by J. West, esq. of Hampton Poyle, as a place of sepulture for his family: in it is a grotesque monument of himself, his wife, and daughter, in the bad taste of his age; but well executed. He left a small benefaction to the parish.

sir John de Docklington, a fishmonger, who had been several times mayor. The windows of this aisle are very elegant, and it must have been originally a fine specimen of the best style of Gothic architecture; but unfortunately the old roof has been destroyed, and a room built above, the floor of which cuts off the tops of the windows. The east window is also obstructed by the West chapel. The upper story has been long used as a muniment room for the archdeaconries of Oxford and Berks; though it was for a short time used as a library to Pembroke college[g]; the aisle itself being their chapel. Beneath this aisle is a vaulted crypt, long used as a charnel house; but lately cleared out and repaired. The aisle is divided from the nave by the original massive wall, which has been pierced with three acutely pointed arches of different sizes. On the opposite sides are corbel heads of Edward III. and his queen Philippa; which probably supported the luminaries of St. Peter and St. Paul. Beneath the large east window was an altar; the piscina, and a niche for a small figure of a saint, remain on the south side of the window. Wood also mentions the chantry of John de St. Frideswide, a native of this parish, and several times mayor, who left all his lands and revenues for the maintenance of the chaplain thereof about 33 Edward III.

In this aisle is placed a remarkably fine altar tomb of alabaster, to the memory of John Noble, LL. B. principal of Broadgates hall, and official of the archdeacon of Berks, who died in 1522. Of this we have given an

[g] According to Wood, it was divided into chambers some years before the great rebellion, and was anciently used as a civil law school, having divers books of that profession locked up in chests for the use of the scholars of Broadgates hall and other halls adjoining.

engraving. The inscription, being in some parts injured, and deciphered with difficulty, is here given entire[h].



TOMB OF JOHN NOBLE, 1522.

THE NORTH AISLE, originally called from its dedication St. Saviour's chapel, was built in 1455 by Philip Polton, fellow of All Souls' college, and archdeacon of Gloucester[i]; who subsequently instituted a chantry therein, and by his will, dated 1461, left certain tenements,

[h] 'Magister Joh'es Noble in legib' bacallarius quonda principalis aule latar' portar' et offic' archd'ni Bark': et obiit secudo die Junii Anno dni mill'o cccc°xxij. Cui' aie ppiciet' de' Ame.

O
Nuc xpe te petim' miserere qsque beisti
Redim' p'ditos noli dapnare redemptos.

Miseremini mei, miseremini mei. saltem vos amici mei. quia manus dni tetigit me.' The latter part is from Job, chap. xix. 21: 'Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me.'

[i] One Philip Polton, probably the same, is mentioned by Wood, as being principal of Polton hall, which he considers the same with St. John's hall. It was for legists, according to Rouse, and stood on the north side of the churchyard. V. Peshall, p. 154.

lands, and revenues, for the proper maintenance thereof. This endowment was increased in the following year by the benefactions of Joan Wylmott. Wood states that the octagon pillars which divide this aisle from the nave, were built in 1581: and so an inscription testifies. The nave appears to have been widened, either at that time, or when the Polton aisle was built.

THE TOWER AND SPIRE are of early character; but it is to be regretted that we have no information of the exact time when they were built; certainly not later than Docklington's aisle. The spire, with the four small pinnacles at its base, appears to be of an age between that of St. Frideswide's and St. Mary's. There is no staircase at present in the tower; but from the appearance of the north-east buttress, and the remains of a doorway opening into it from Polton's aisle, there can be little doubt that it formerly had one. This church was entirely new pewed and fitted up in 1832 at a considerable expense, which was defrayed chiefly by public subscription. It is done with good taste, neatness, and judgment. The singing gallery is placed in the tower; consequently is much less in the way, and less offensive to the eye, than such excrescences generally are.

This PARISH extends from St. Martin's on the north, to the old turnpike house, about a mile on the Abingdon road on the south; on the east, to Christ Church and the stream on the western side of the meadow, and to the parishes of St. Ebbe and Hinksey on the west: a part of the parish is consequently in Berkshire, and is called the liberty of Grandpont or Grampound. It includes parts of the ancient parishes of St. Edward, St. Frideswide, and St. Michael at Southgate.

In 1771 it contained 147 houses: in 1833 this number had increased to 316. The population by the census of 1831 was 1789: and the annual value of property rated to the poor was about 8870*l.*

The ancient church and parish of St. Edward have been already mentioned in our account of All Saints', p. 13, the greater part of its extent being included in that parish: that of St. Frideswide is almost entirely included in the site of Christ Church: but that of St. Michael at Southgate requires further notice. It belonged to St. Frideswide's priory, and the church or chapel is mentioned in the charter of Henry I. as 'Capella S. Michaelis.' See Dugdale, vol. i. p. 174. It stood on the site of the professor of Hebrew's lodgings, and was pulled down by Wolsey, according to Wood ap. Peshall, p. 119, 195, 254. Wood also mentions, ap. Peshall, p. 256, the church of Dantesburne or Danesbourne, as having been situated in the south suburbs, near Southbridge and given to Godstow nunnery by Ralph Bloet, about 1250. He gives the register of Godstow as his authority, but Dugdale does not mention it.

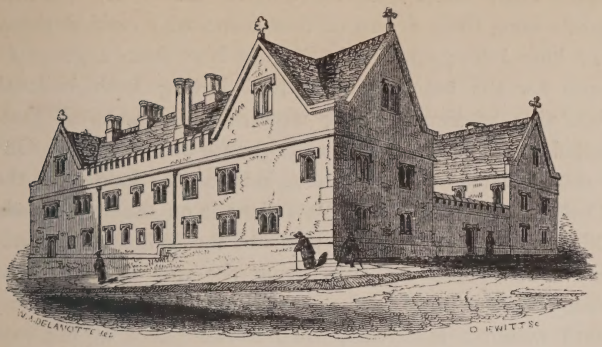
On the south side of the church stand Pembroke college and the almshouse; the former includes the site of Broadgates hall, once a place of considerable importance in the university, and several other halls, an account of which will be found in the notice of that college. The almshouse was founded by cardinal Wolsey on the site of some tenements which had belonged to the family of Segrim, burgesses of the city, and had been employed for academical purposes. But Wolsey being disgraced, as is well known, before his foundations were completed, this almshouse was left imperfect both in buildings and revenues[m]. King Henry VIII. afterwards endowed it out of the revenues of the college: giving the nomination of the almsmen to the dean of Christ Church, but subject to the royal approbation. It has been usual to appoint persons who have served either in the army or navy. The buildings remained in an unfinished state, having

[m] Wood, ap. Peshall, p. 144.

the appearance of ruins, until the year 1834; when they were completed after a neat design of Mr. Underwood, at the expense of the dean and chapter of Christ Church, with a view to the great improvements projected in this part of the city.

THE OLD ALMSHOUSE.

The ancient Southgate stood between the south end of the almshouse and Christ Church, and was well fortified with towers on each side; whence the place where this gate stood, which was on a sharp declivity, was for a long period called Tower-hill. This has now been sloped off into a more gradual descent; but the marks of the former level may be clearly seen by the stonework at the base of the buildings both of Christ Church and of the almshouse at this point; and particularly from a doorway lately walled up.



THE NEW ALMSHOUSE, 1834.

Streets.—The street which led from Carfax to Southgate, while the gate was in existence, was called Fish street; the fish market being held there; the lower part between the gate and the bridge being called by the same name with the bridge itself, 'Grandpont.' Both are now generally included in the common name of St. Aldate's, corrupted into St. Ole's and St. Toll's. The street leading from Fish street to St. Ebbe's church is called Pennyfarthing street, from a wealthy family who resided there, of whom Wm. Penyverthing was provost of Oxon in the reign of Henry iij. about 1240: also Nicholas Pennyfader occurs as an inhabitant thereabout in the beginning of Edward j. Pinke-farthing street also is found in ancient records. A great improvement will be effected here by the removal of the old houses which have encroached upon St. Aldate's churchyard. Some of those on the east side have already been removed; but those on the north side will also require removal. The greater part of these tenements were appropriated to uses which have ceased to exist in law for 300 years. They are said to have been originally built on ground taken out of the churchyard for the use of the chantry priests, and were therefore called the Priests' houses. Between Penny farthing street and the Butcher row, there was anciently a lane called Kepeharme's lane, which led from Fish street, nearly opposite to Blue Boar lane, to another lane or alley called 'Kepeharme's Twychen,' as connecting two parishes, and leading from the Butcher row to Pennyfarthing street. This lane was so called from the family of Kepeharme, who were of great repute and wealth at the time of the Norman Conquest and for some centuries afterwards. See Peshall, pp. 195, 256. The lane immediately to the south of the almshouse led from

Southgate close under the city wall to Littlegate, and was called Lombard's lane, from a Jew of that name who resided there in the reign of king John; afterwards Slaying lane, from a general slaughter house for the butchers of Oxford having been built there in 27 Hen. viij; afterwards King street, from persons of that name; now called Brewer's lane, from a brewhouse built therein. On the opposite side, lower down, was Overee lane, or the lane over the water, near Christchurch backgate. Water lane is on the western side, considerably to the south of this, opposite the Wheatsheaf inn: it was formerly called Preachers' lane, being the way to the monastery of the black or preaching friars. It continued to be very swampy after rain until within a few years, when it was paved at the expense of Mr. Tredwell. Trill Mill Bow, and Denchurch Bow, were names formerly given to the two small bridges of one arch over the back streams which cross Grandpont street.

Academic Halls were very numerous in this parish; but few traces of them remain: a large number were swallowed up in the site of Christ Church and Pembroke college; and the remainder have so long disappeared, that it is difficult even to point out where they stood. In Pennyfarthing street there were several. Wood mentions two, (Peshall, 154, 155,) of the name of Bolle or Bull hall, Aula Taurina: one at the corner of Fish street, another a short distance from it, so called from a family of that name, and given to Merton college by Edward iij. Several members of that college were principals of the latter, and it was used principally by legists, or law students. Moyses, Moses, or Mossey hall, so called from a Jew of that name in the reign of king John, was near to the last, and was given to Oriel college by Adam de Brom 36 Edward iij. Hinksey hall, so called from one Jeffrey de Hinksey, temp. Henry iij. belonged to Oseney abbey, and was situated in Fish street, at the corner of Kepeharme lane, and partly in that lane. This must have been a large and important hall, as we find mention in 1485 of an oratory for the scholars to celebrate service in, as well as of a refectory, kitchen, and buttery, and ten other rooms separately taxed. It was used by students in civil law. The New Inn now stands on the site of this hall. There are some ancient and extensive vaults with groined roofs of stone still in existence under the house occupied by Mrs. Grosvenor, which probably belonged to another hall.

Opposite to the east end of Pennyfarthing street was the Jews' synagogue, which after the expulsion of the Jews was granted by Edward I. to W. Burnell, dean of Wells, and brother of the bishop of that name. By him it was converted, with a tenement adjoin-

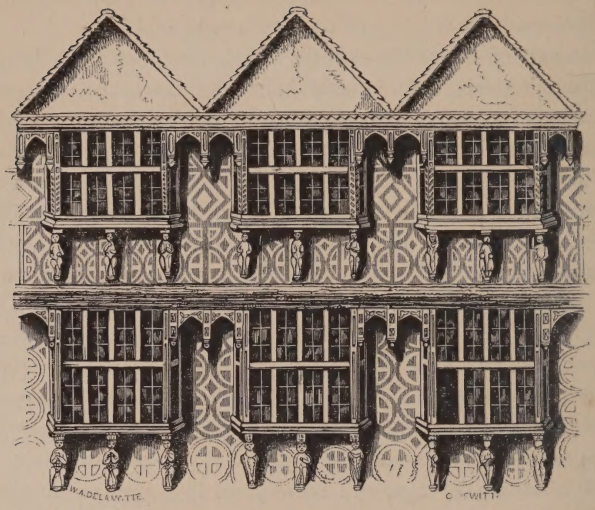
ing, into a hall for students, and given to Balliol college: it was then distinguished by the name of Burnell's inn, or Balliol hall, afterwards London college, from R. Clifford, bishop of London, who was educated there, and left it a legacy of 1000 marks in 1421.

In that part of the south suburbs which now forms the lower part of St. Aldate's street, were several halls, and there are still considerable remains of ancient buildings, some of which appear to have been of importance. To the south of the almshouse is a picturesque stone house of considerable antiquity, said by tradition to have been once occupied by Oliver Cromwell, when he came to Oxford with Farifax in 1649.

Immediately to the south of the Trill Mill Bow, before mentioned, are the remains of a house said by tradition to have been occupied by Robert King, the last abbot of Oseney, and first bishop of Oxford: the part which faces the Trill Mill stream, of which we have given a woodcut, standing near West's livery stables, and partly occupied by Mr. Randall, appears to have been either new fronted or repaired in 1628, as the brackets of one window bear that date; but the rich decorations of the ceilings and other parts of the interior seem to be the work of an earlier age, and correspond in a very striking manner with those of another old house about four doors south of this, with bay windows of stone; and in this lower house the arms of King are several times repeated in the ceiling of the room on the ground floor. From these circumstances, and the appearance of the back premises, we are inclined to believe that the whole originally formed one mansion, which was most probably built by Bp. King after the accession of Edward vj. when he was deprived of Gloucester hall, which had previously been assigned to him as his residence. The palace at Cuddesden was not built until near a century afterwards; and during the intermediate period the bishops of Oxford had no fixed residence.

This house was subsequently occupied by and belonged to Unton Croke, esq., who was a colonel in Cromwell's army; and member of parliament for the city of Oxford jointly with his brother sir Richard Croke, who was also recorder many years. His father, serjeant Croke, was deputy steward of the university from 1615 to 1641: and it is probable that he also occupied this property. An interesting history of the family has been published by sir Alexander Croke of Studley, from which these particulars are taken. There were eight tenements in this parish formerly belonging to Studley priory.

Water-hall, so called from its situation near the Trill Mill stream, which is mentioned by that name 21 Edw. iij. was the house now occupied by G. Hitchings, esq. Nearly opposite was Pope-hall, so called from Thomas Pope, who occupied it temp. Hen. iv.



PART OF BISHOP KING'S HOUSE.

Folly bridge, so called from the tower or folly which stood on it, was formerly called Southbridge. The first erection of a bridge on this spot is beyond all authentic record; but there certainly appears to have been a bridge here in the Saxon times, according to the opinion of our best antiquaries. Various particulars respecting the old bridge will be found in Wood ap. Peshall, pp. 257. 259. The old tower which stood upon it, and was traditionally called Friar Bacon's Study, has been already mentioned in our account of the Observatory, where we have given an engraving of it. The present substantial bridge was built in 1825-27, under an act of parliament passed in 1815. The architect was Ebenezer Perry. The expense was defrayed by loans to be repaid by the produce of the toll gate.

The water-works and the wharfs adjacent to this bridge, erected in accordance with the recent alterations of widening the approach to it, are in a style worthy of the entrance to such a city as Oxford. We have many incidental proofs that the river was navigated so high as Oxford, if not higher, from a very early period. A kind of toll, payable to the monks of Abingdon, in the time of Edward the Confessor, is mentioned by Wood ap. Peshall, p. 259, which sufficiently indicates the fact; and that a considerable inland trade was carried on by means of the navigation of the river.

J. Mackenzie.

J. Le Keux.

ST. EBBE'S CHURCH.

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ARCH IN THE VESTRY[p].

THE foundation of this church is involved in obscurity. It is dedicated in the name of one of the Saxon saints, Ebba, abbess of Colingham and daughter of Ethelfrid king of Northumberland; who died in 685.

But the first authentic mention of the church is in 1005, when it was given to Ensham Abbey, together with land and tenements round about it, by Alan earl of Cornwall, son of Æthelmer the founder of that abbey. This gift is recorded in the confirmation charter of Remigius, bishop of Lincoln, in 1070. It continued in possession of that abbey until the dissolution, when the advowson was consigned to the crown, to which it still belongs. The living was always a poor one, as appears from the valuations at different periods, and is so still.

The only remaining part of the old building is the

[p] The fine old Saxon or Norman doorway, which was carefully preserved, from a suggestion of the editor of this work, and afterwards reconstructed in the vestry under the direction of John Ireland, esq.

tower; and this is now so much surrounded by other buildings that it is difficult to ascertain in what style it is built: it is however evident from the interior that it is of great antiquity, being built of rubble, very massive, and having no staircase. The whole of the body of the old church was pulled down in 1814 on account of its dilapidated state; and the present church built on the same site in the course of the two following years, being completed and opened for divine service in 1816. Mr. W. Fisher was both architect and builder, and the work on the whole is very creditable to him. The want of a chancel has rather an awkward effect; but this is chargeable rather to the confined situation than to the architect. The font was given by the late Dr. Griffith, master of University college. The whole expense of the new church was about 3000*l.*

The boundaries of this parish are so intricate that we can only describe them in general terms, as we have been compelled to do in other instances. It is of considerable extent, reaching from the parish of St. Peter le Bailey on the north to the river on the south, and from Pembroke College and St. Aldate's parish on the east to the river again on the west, including the site of the ancient Friaries of the Dominicans and Franciscans, now built over.

In 1771 this parish contained only 106 houses, in 1835 the number had increased to 541 and is daily increasing. The annual value of property rated to the poor is about 7000*l.* and the population by the census of 1831 was 3123.

Littlegate was situated at the point where Brewer's lane joins Milk street. The remains of the city wall may be distinctly traced from the site of Southgate to Littlegate, part of the buildings of Pembroke college standing upon it. Westgate was situated at the junction of the two streets which run westward from the churches of St. Ebbe and St. Peter le Bailey.

The Monastery of the Dominicans, called also Black Friars and Preaching Friars, was situated in an island formed by different branches of the river on the south side of the city; being separated from Brewer's lane by the stream called Trill Mill stream, and from Grandpont street by another branch of the same stream. These streams of water form a landmark not to be mistaken, and serve to identify the situation of the monastery when no other trace remains. A considerable part of this island is now occupied by Mr. Tredwell's garden, in which stone coffins have been dug up at different periods; a large arched sewer and other traces of ancient buildings have been found. A small house, said to have been the prior's house, is still standing. The Preachers' bridge, consisting of several arches built by these friars about the sixth of Edward i, formed the principal entrance to their domain from Littlegate.

These friars were called Dominicans from their founder St. Dominic, a Spaniard, who lived about 1070. They came into England in 1221, and had their first house at Oxford the same year: by the munificence of Isabel de Bulbec, widow of Robert earl of Oxford, this first settlement was in the Jewry, with a view to the conversion of the Jews; but finding their space confined in this situation, and having obtained a grant from King Henry iij. of the island beforementioned, they removed to it in 1259. Here they speedily built themselves, with the assistance of the pious, larger and more commodious premises, together with a church, which was dedicated to St. Nicholas in 1262, to which a south aisle, containing six windows, was added in 1426 by sir Peter Besills of Besills-Leigh, Berks. See Tanner, preface p. xxi. also p. 430; Stephen's Supplement to Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. ii. p. 203.

The Monastery of the Franciscans, Minor, or Grey Friars, was separated from that of the Dominicans on the south by a small stream of water, and on the west from Oseney Abbey by a similar stream. Their first settlement was in 1224 in houses and land in St. Ebbe's parish assigned them by 'Richard Milner le Mercer' and others, confirmed and enlarged by King Henry iij. who was their chief benefactor[s]. That king by his charter in the twenty-ninth year of his reign[t] granted them also for the greater quiet and security of their habitation that they might enclose the street that lies along the wall of Oxford, from the Watergate (Littlegate) in the parish of St. Ebbe to the little postern in the said wall towards the castle (Westgate); so that a wall with battlements, like to the rest of the wall of Oxford, be made about the dwelling, beginning at the west side of the aforesaid

[s] Tanner, p. 431 and xxi; Peshall, p. 267.

[t] Pat. 29. H. iii. m. 6, 9 et 10.

Watergate (Littlegate), and reaching southward to the bank of the Thames, and thence extending along the said bank westward, so far as the land of the abbot of Bec in the parish of St. Budoe, and then turning again to the northward till it joins with the wall of the aforesaid borough, by the east side of the aforesaid small postern (Westgate). A great part of the wall built according to this agreement is still in existence, or at least an old wall on the same site. He also gave them permission to pull down that part of the city wall included within this space, and a few months afterwards gave them a small island on the south side, separated from their house by Trill Mill stream. This island was planted with rows of trees according to the custom of the times, and at the dissolution is described as a very delightful grove.

Of the extent and magnificence of their buildings it is now difficult to form any just idea, as scarcely a trace has been left of them; but the dimensions of their church have been preserved by William of Worcester[x], from which we may form some notion of the rest. It was 158 of his paces[y] in length, of a proportionate width, and had ten chapels of six paces square on the north side of the nave, each containing a window of three days (or lights), glazed. In 1310 the house of the penitentiaries without Westgate being added to their former possessions, they extended to the Castle Mill stream.

At the general dissolution of monasteries under Hen. viij. these two houses of the Dominicans and the Franciscans, or the Black and the Grey Friars, as they were usually called, shared the common fate, and the whole of their magnificent domains, including land, buildings, and all appurtenances, were sold for the sum of 1094*l.* to R. Andrews, esq. of Hailes, in Gloucestershire, and J. How, gent. The buildings were soon afterwards pulled down for the sake of the materials, which were sold piecemeal at a very cheap rate; unless we allow for the sacrilege of it, says Wood, ap. Peshall, p. 265. The site is at present occupied chiefly by modern buildings, even the small island being built over; the only part which has escaped being Paradise Garden, mentioned by that name in an inquisition A. D. 1221, which formed part of the gardens of the monastery without the walls.

[x] Peshall, from Willis's History of Abbeys, Addenda, vol. ii. p. 334. The celebrated Roger Bacon was buried here in 1292: as was Beatrix, the third wife of Richard, king of the Romans, the great benefactor of this and other monasteries, whose heart was deposited here.

[y] William of Worcester's paces are *two* feet instead of *three*.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

MAGDALEN CHURCH, FROM BROAD STREET.

London Published Sept.1 1838, by J.H. Parker Oxford, C. Tilt, Fleet Street, & J. Le Keux Hammersmith.

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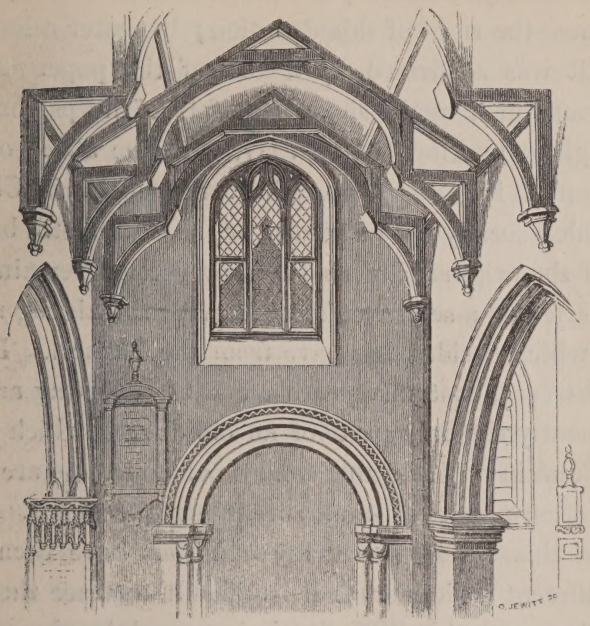


THE NAVE.

St. Mary Magdalene.

THIS Church is said to have been originally built before the Norman Conquest, by permission of the convent of St. Frideswide[a], and was probably an appendage to that monastery. It formed part of the magnificent grant of William the Conqueror to Robert D'Oily, and was soon afterwards given by him to the secular canons of his college of St. George, then newly founded in the castle which he had built. It remained in their posses-

[a] "It was built by the permission of St. Frideswide." Peshall, p. 224. This expression was probably intended to be applicable to whatever denomination of inmates were then in possession of the monastery.

sion about half a century, when Robert D'Oily the second transferred it together with the college, in 1129, to the abbey of Oseney. The canons of St. Frideswide disputed the right of this donation; but after a long contest it was confirmed by a bull of the pope. At the reformation it again shared the fate of its patrons, and was given by king Henry VIII, with the abbey of Oseney and all its possessions, to his college of Christ Church; to which society the patronage of the church still belongs.

Of the original church the only portion remaining at all perfect is a semicircular arch, with the zigzag moulding, which divided the nave from the chancel. It may be observed, that this portion and the doorway are very frequently the only parts of an old church which are to be found in any tolerable condition; and these are therefore often preserved in all succeeding alterations.

To this building so many additions have been made at different periods, that it is difficult to trace them distinctly: and this difficulty is increased by the peculiar situation of the structure between two streets[b], which has compelled such additions to be made on the north and south sides; until the length of the church has become greater from north to south, than from east to west: a peculiarity of feature, the unpleasant effect of which the late arrangements of the interior were not calculated to remove.

The first of these additions were the north and south AISLES, built by Hugh[c], bishop of Lincoln, about 1194.

[b] It is probable that there was only one street originally, leading directly from the north gate; and therefore called Northgate street in the time of Henry VI. when Bernard college was founded. The original church might consequently have extended farther eastward.

[c] St. Hugo of Burgundy, a native of Grenoble, who was brought over by king Henry the Second for his superior learning and sanctity.

The one on the south side of the church, which now forms the intermediate aisle between the nave and the southernmost chapel called "our Lady's chapel," was so altered when the Carmelites obtained the ascendency here, that very few traces of it can now be discovered; but in that on the north side there are small lancet windows, and other tokens of earlier architecture. The high-pitched roofs of these aisles still remain externally, but within they are concealed by flat plaster ceilings. The nave, though probably rebuilt in bishop Hugh's time, was again rebuilt in the early part of the reign of Henry VIII, when the tower was repaired and a new timber roof constructed. The east window of the original chancel appears somewhat later than the time of Hugh.

The north aisle, or a part of it, was repaired and fitted up about 1280 by Dervorgilla, the foundress of Balliol college, as an oratory for the use of her scholars. Hence it has been known by the name of Dervorgilla's aisle, or St. Catharine's chapel. The payment of 40*s.* per annum to St. Catharine's priest is mentioned so late as the time of Henry VIII, and the "mass book of St. Catharine" was "mended" in the 24th of his reign. The uniformity of this aisle[d], which must originally have

He also built a part of Lincoln cathedral, called the "New work," from the foundation; and being buried there, was canonized in 1220. His memory appears to have been so much respected, that even so late as 1562 there is an item for the ringers "on St. Hugh's day."

[d] A considerable space at the east end of this aisle, on the north side of the chancel, has long been divided from the church; the ground-room being used first as a vestry, and now converted into an engine house and a coal cellar; over which is the registrar's office for the diocese of Oxford, for which a small rent is annually paid to the parish. There is this entry in the parish accounts, dated May the 1st, 5 Edward VI. (1552.) "*Item*, received of Robert Dolley for the chamber over the vestry 7*s.*" The same was received in 1509. At the late alteration of the church, a brick wall was erected about

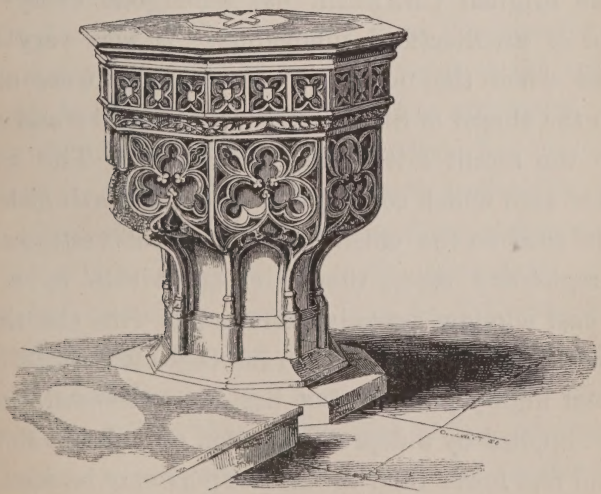
resembled some portions of St. Giles's, was entirely destroyed at an early period by inserting two large windows of different dates and styles; one corresponding with the windows of the southernmost aisle, the other apparently with archbishop Kemp's. This aisle, or the part dedicated to St. Catharine, was used by the scholars of Balliol college from their first foundation until 1293; after which Oliver Sutton, and other bishops of Lincoln in succession, granted them permission to celebrate divine service in their own oratory within the walls of the college; except on particular solemnities, when they were bound to attend in the parish church. This restriction was removed by Urban VI. in 1380[e].

ST. MARY'S CHAPEL.—The beautiful aisle on the south side of the church was begun, if not finished, in the reign of Edward II, being dedicated in honour of our lady of Mount Carmel by the friars of that order, to whom the said monarch gave his palace of Beaumont; and there can be little doubt that this chapel, traditionally called the "founder's aisle," was the original church of the Carmelites, and intended for their use by Ed. II, whom they called their founder. This fact has been hitherto overlooked, from the confusion of dates in Peshall's account, and from other circumstances. In the year 1337 it is mentioned as the "new chapel of St. Mary." There

three feet within the old one, in order to bring it into a line with the entrance to the chancel, which was bricked up at the same period. The wooden door near the west end of this aisle bears the date of 1645. The jambs of the doorway are probably of the same date, and a rude imitation of the Grecian or Roman style then coming into fashion; though the arch above seems ancient. The present appearance of the roof, or rather roofs of this aisle, might have arisen from three distinct chapels, as there are three short roofs; the two at the extremities being higher than that in the centre; but they have been so repeatedly altered that no certain inference can be drawn from them.

[e] See our account of Balliol college.

were proctors to keep the accounts; and the seal of the chantry was the crescent of the East surmounted by the star of Bethlehem. There was a distinct entrance to this chapel from the churchyard by steps, the floor of it being raised about three feet above the rest of the church, on account of the crypt beneath; but at the time of the late alteration the floor was made level, and the place of the crypt supplied by brick vaults. The separate entrance had been closed long before. The original roof had also been removed, and its place supplied by a leaden one, nearly flat, and several feet lower than before in the centre, cutting off the top of the west window. As the very elegant open parapet, and the whole front of this chapel, are in a bad state of repair, it is much to be wished that they may be carefully restored before it is too late. The figures which anciently filled the four niches have long been destroyed. There is said to have been a figure of the Virgin, and another of St. Hugh, standing on their respective pedestals. In this aisle is placed the ancient font, which is remarkably elegant.



THE FONT

When this chapel was built, Hugh of Lincoln's work was perhaps in part removed; the adjoining aisle being reconstructed to accord with this, a new chancel formed, and the old one apparently converted into a confessional. It is difficult to account for the disproportionate size of the westernmost of the three arches which connect this chapel with the intermediate aisle: the mouldings of all three correspond so exactly, that it can hardly be supposed to be a subsequent alteration. The eastern part of this intermediate aisle was once a distinct chapel, dedicated to St. Thomas, with its separate altar under the large window, supposed to be of the time of Kemp's window at Merton, 1417, which it much resembles. This window was bricked up for a long period; but as the tracery remained perfect, it was judiciously reopened in 1826; previously to this alteration, the communion-table stood under it, with a heavy wooden altar-piece in the usual Dutch taste, improperly called Grecian. At the angle between this and the south chapel is an octangular turret, enclosing a staircase, whereby to ascend to the roof.

The original CHANCEL has undergone every vicissitude of architectural innovation. It was very much altered when the north and south aisles were added; when the chapel of St. Thomas was enclosed; and again, when the recent alterations took place. The acutely pointed arch which connected it with the north aisle may still be seen on the outside of the present vestry, and in the registrar's office, though closed within by a wall. The east window scarcely corresponds with the time of this arch, and must have been inserted afterwards. The original highly pointed roof has been removed, and its place supplied by a depressed leaden one, almost flat, and several feet lower than the former; as may be seen from the original gable which remains. This method of sub-

stituting leaden roofs has disfigured many of our ancient churches. The doorway on the south side is a later insertion, having a less acutely pointed arch. The remains of the confessional may be observed near it, marked by a cinquefoil arch, which has been clumsily filled up. This venerable chancel is now shut out of the church altogether, and has been long used as a vestry room.

THE NAVE.—The walls of the original nave have been pierced with two pointed arches, supported on octagonal columns, which must have been constructed when the side aisles were added; but seem to have been altered from their original character when the tower and roof of the nave were rebuilt. The wood work of the roof bears the character of the Tudor era, and was probably erected between 1511 and 1531; when considerable repairs and alterations were made, as appears from the parish accounts. The semicircular arch before mentioned, which divides the nave from the chancel, proves the antiquity of this part of the church; but the window above was evidently constructed after the removal of the ancient roof of the chancel.

THE TOWER.—This appears from the massive character of the lower part to have belonged to the original building, but it has undergone many successive alterations: the first of which was probably when it became necessary to pierce the north and south walls with arches opening into the side aisles; and as these correspond on both sides, they are probably of the same date. These arches are now filled up, but may be distinctly traced. The arch facing the nave, in which the organ stands, is very lofty and handsome. The lower window, fronting the west, as well as that at the end of the intermediate south aisle, corresponds with those of the southernmost

chapel, called the Founder's aisle. The upper part of the tower, and the roof of the nave, were rebuilt between 1511 and 1531[f]. The "great bell" also was added so late as 1562. The elegant little figure of St. Mary Magdalene, the patroness of the church, represented in a niche on the west side over the lower window, the window itself, and the richly carved string-course beneath, are among the best specimens of sculpture and masonry in Oxford. The octangular turret, by which we ascend to

[f] There seems to be but a slight foundation for the belief, that the tower was built from the ground with materials brought from Rewley abbey. The sum paid to Mr. Parret "for a bargayne bowght at Rewley, of stone, timber, and other stuffe," was only twenty-seven shillings; and this was bought for another purpose, being entered in the accounts of the proctors of our Lady's chapel. Wood observes, that the proctors of this chapel bought a great deal of such stuff to repair their *tenements;* "perhaps," he adds, "when Rewley church was pulled down." About this period some great work was in progress: the tower was probably raised higher, and the nave *rebuilt*, 22 Hen. VIII. The notices of sums paid for the repairs of the fabric, its embellishments, furniture, &c. are very numerous. In 1517 forty pounds were bestowed in building—"ad ædificationem ecclesiæ." In the 31st of Hen. VIII. the *old organ* was taken down, and a new one substituted; and so late as 32 Hen VIII. there is an item in the parish accounts for taking down a rood-loft at the Black Friars, with Mary and John, and the carriage of them "from the said fryars to our church." But in the fifth year of Edw. VI. eight tabernacles which were over the altars were sold out of the church, with the altars themselves; though Wood says they set up their altars again in queen Mary's reign. The oak chest, in which the "jewells" lay, which is very curiously carved, is still preserved in the vestry; and seems coeval with the inner door of the south porch, which it resembles much in character. It is mentioned in the parish accounts 25 Hen. VIII. The south porch is a later erection than the entrance door within; and the loft above appears from the parish accounts to have been built in 1513. This was a small chamber, called St. John's chamber, apparently used as a chantry, dedicated to that saint; which was removed among the late alterations: the walls remain, but the windows both of this and of the lower part of the porch have been long blocked up.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

MAGDALEN CHURCH, FROM S^T GILES'S.

Published Sep^r 1. 1833. by J. H. Parker, Oxford; C. Tilt, Fleet Street; & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

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the belfry, which from its lightness and elegance adds considerably to the effect of this structure as viewed from the north, appears to have been rebuilt from the foundation distinctly from the tower; the same mouldings not being continued round its sides which are observable on the adjoining fabric.

In the year 1826 the interior of the church was entirely altered, and fitted up afresh at a considerable expense. Galleries were erected on the north and west sides. That on the west is brought forward into the church considerably more than is necessary, and a space left behind it: the front of it might easily have been kept to the line of the tower. The communion-table was removed from the east end of the second chancel, and placed at the south-west angle of the southernmost aisle. The pulpit also experienced a corresponding change of situation. The original chancel, it should be observed, had been previously used as a vestry, and shut out of the church by a wooden partition. This partition indeed was now removed; but its place was supplied by a brick wall, and a stove for the introduction of warm air. On the whole, the church has certainly been rendered more comfortable and commodious; but we cannot commend the taste which directed the general plan of the alterations, and must regret that so good an opportunity of restoring the church to its former beauty and character was used to so little advantage.

The present organ, which is the third on record, was purchased by subscription in 1830, and placed in the large arch under the tower; the best situation that could have been chosen for it: and in this instance an example is shewn, which might be judiciously followed in many other churches similarly circumstanced.

The church was formerly encumbered by buildings on the north and south sides, but these have been happily removed by the commissioners under the Paving Act, as the leases expired; those on the south side about 1794, those on the north about 1820.

OLD HOUSES ON THE NORTH OF THE CHURCH, REMOVED ABOUT 1820.

THIS PARISH is one of the largest in Oxford, and is nearly a mile and a quarter in circuit. It is bounded on the north by St. Giles's; on the east by Holywell; on the south by St. Michael's and St. Peter's-le-baily; and on the west by that of St. Thomas. It is situated in the north suburbs of the city, and includes the whole of Balliol and Trinity colleges, with their gardens; nearly all St. John's, part of the old Clarendon building, the north side of Broad street, the greater part of George lane, Gloucester green with the city gaol, and the site of the ancient palace and gardens of Beaumont, now Beaumont street, St. John street, &c. The whole of the parish is

situated in the tract of land in early times called Beaumont, "de Bello Monte," which, together with the manors of Walton and Holywell, comprehended all the suburbs to the north of the city wall; but the former name was subsequently restricted to the palace erected there by Henry I. and the grounds attached to it.

STREETS.—Broad street was anciently called HORSE-MONGER street, from a market for horses granted by Henry I. to the priory of St. Frideswide, which was kept here. It was afterwards entitled Canditch, "candida fossa," from a clear stream of water in the ditch to the north of the city wall. The remains of the old wall are yet to be traced behind the houses on the north side of Ship lane. There were no buildings on the north side of this wall till the reign of Elizabeth; though it appears by the city registry of leases, there were small gardens and orchards between the wall and the ditch. But when the city had in 1589 purchased of G. Brome, esq. the royalties of Northgate hundred, the ditch was filled up, and houses were gradually erected on its site; which are now all held under leases granted by the city.

In this street, it is well known, the celebrated martyrs and eminent fathers of the church of England, Cranmer, Latimer, and Ridley, were burnt. The exact spot is usually pointed out by a transverse stone in the cross-way, opposite the door of the master of Balliol's lodgings, between it and a bastion of the city wall, which still remains nearly perfect at the back of the houses now inhabited by Miss Hoskins and Mr. Dudley.

GEORGE LANE was so called from St. George's hall, which formed the north-east extremity of the lane. This hall is mentioned under the name of Pyper's inn, in the reign of Richard II; St. George's inn in the time of

Henry VIII, and long afterwards. There was always a road or way leading from Broad street to Hythe or High bridge; but, with the exception of the George inn and a few houses to the west of it, it does not appear that there were at an early period any houses between the walls of the city and those of Beaumont palace; which latter formed the north bounds of Gloucester green: the intervening space consisted of irregular *hedges* and uneven ground, denominated Broken-hayes[g]. In the map of Oxford by Ralph Agas, which bears the date of 1578, there is no trace of an erection on the north side of the wall; though it is certain that enclosed gardens and a bowling green were there at that period, attached to the adjacent tenements in New-inn lane, access being had to them through a small postern in the wall. In 1587, Dr. Glazier built a house to the north-west of Bocardo; and his example was soon followed by others, who also held these suburban gardens. Soon after the city had purchased the manorial rights of Northgate, which included a property in the waste ground called Broken-hayes, buildings were erected beyond the city ditch, gradually forming the south side of George lane; and the corporation having in 1638 levelled the ground, and formed a square enclosure with a bowling green, now called Gloucester green[h], beneficial leases were granted to

[g] The inequality of ground, which gave to this part the appellation of Broken-hayes, is attributed to the celebrated siege of Oxford castle by king Stephen; when the fortress was obstinately and courageously defended for three months by the empress Matilda, and the palace of Beaumont was fortified for the residence of the king by throwing up these mounds, which answered the double purpose of defending the palace and attacking the castle. See Sharpe's Malmesbury, p. 608. and Gesta regis Steph. ap. Hist. Norm. Script. p. 958.

[h] The city gaol, built in 1789, now occupies a great part of this space.

induce the erection of tenements adjoining that green, to form the north side of George lane. It was stipulated that these should be "good handsome dwelling houses, set up after such manner, form, and fashion, as the mayor, assistants, and bailiffs, should prescribe." Such houses were there commenced in 1642; but the public dissensions preventing the progress of them, the street was not perfectly formed till after the restoration[i]. Several of the ancient houses here afford good specimens of the domestic architecture of that period; and there are remains of others in Gloucester green, and Friars' entry.

On the west side of Broken-hayes and Beaumont palace was STOCKWELL street, "magnus vicus de Stockwell," so called from Stoke well, or Stock's well, which also went by the name of Plato's well, and Cornish chough well. This street led from Walton manor house or farm towards the castle, and appears to be the same with that in which the University printing-house and the row of houses called Walton-place have recently been built.

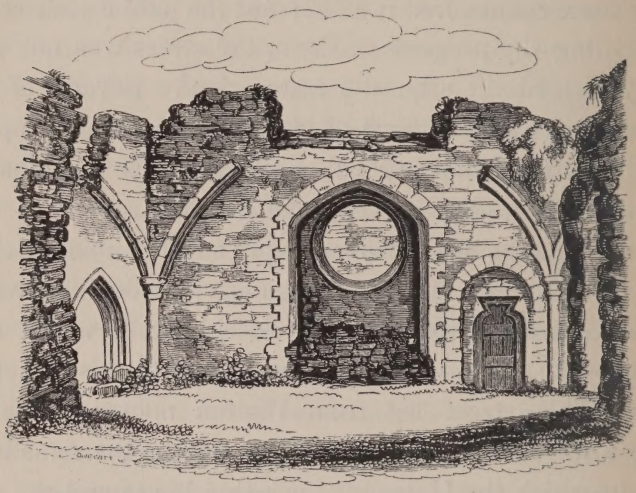
IRISHMAN'S street, so called from the number of Irishmen studying there, was partly in this parish and partly in that of St. Thomas. It was situated between Stockwell street and the castle, and formerly had a stone with a cross on it to mark the division between the two parishes.

BEAUMONT street[k] and St. JOHN'S street, which were

[i] The Independent dissenters have lately built a chapel in this street; the front elevation of which, with some exceptions, is much to be commended for its elegance; being in imitation of the purest style of that architecture, which some writers designate as exclusively Christian. We rejoice to see such signs of good taste spreading among all classes of society, of whatever religious denomination.

[k] There was anciently another street called Beaumond, or Beaumont street, which led from Smithgate and Cat street to the fields of Beaumont; but as it now leads into "the Parks," it has recently acquired the appropriate appellation of PARK street.

commenced in 1828, and are scarcely yet completed, occupy the site of the ancient PALACE of BEAUMONT; some fragments of which were standing not long since on the north side of Beaumont street, about a hundred yards from Worcester college.



REMAINS OF BEAUMONT PALACE, AS THEY APPEARED IN 1800.

This PALACE was built in 1132 by king Henry I, called Beauclerk from his fondness for learning; that he might have full opportunity of watching over the prosperity of the university, and enjoying the society of its members, far more congenial to his disposition than that of the rough barons of his age. Henry II. frequently resided in this palace in the early part of his reign, and his son Richard I. was born there; on which occasion there were great rejoicings. It continued to be the frequent residence of the kings of England until the time of Edward II, who gave it to the Carmelite, or White friars[1], in consequence of a vow made during his wars with Robert Bruce.

[1] Even after it was occupied by the Carmelites, many of the suc-

HALLS.—These were so numerous here, as in other parishes, that we can only briefly enumerate the names and situations of the most important, so far as they are known, and are not included in the limits of any college; more particularly those of which there are any remains.

St. Mary Magdalene hall, or Maudlen hall, mentioned in a will of the date of 1451, is said to have stood on the north side of the church, and to have been one of the houses removed by the commissioners under the Paving Act; it must therefore have been distinct from any of the more celebrated halls of that name. This leads us to remark, that much confusion arises from the frequent mention of distinct halls bearing the same or similar names, though situated in different parishes: the same hall is also often described by many various names at different periods, from its successive owners, the word *hall* being in early times synonymous with inn, mansion, or house.

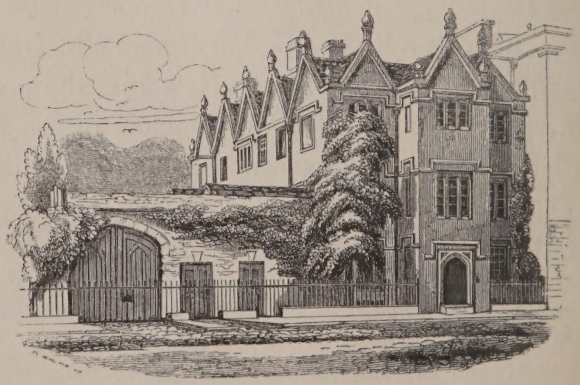
Peyntor's hall, or Culver hall, mentioned in 1361, was situated between George lane and Friars' entry, near to a place called Goose court. On the south side of Friars' entry, near the east end, are the remains of a large stone building, including a gable, massive chimney stacks, windows, &c. which probably was Peyntor's hall. Near this was Oxenford hall, or Oxenford's New Inn, the property of John de Oxenford, a citizen of London, in the 21st of Edward III, who soon afterwards sold it to William of

ceeding kings are said to have made it their residence, when they visited Oxford. Henry VI. is particularly mentioned as having resided here for some time. There is a good account of the Carmelite Friars, and their establishment in Oxford, in the new edition of Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. vi. p. 1577. See also Wood by Peshall, pp. 235-238; and Stevens, Additions to the Monasticon, vol. ii. pp. 177-183.

Wykeham. Wood speaks of such hall or inn standing in his time on the north side of Friars' entry, almost opposite to the west end of Magdalene church. The house and shop of Mr. Coles, coachmaker, and those of Mr. Floyd, currier, are on the site of Oxenford's hall or New Inn, and were lately sold to the occupiers by New college.

Kettel hall still remains on the north side of Broad street; built in 1615 by Dr. Ralph Kettel, president of Trinity college, for the use of students, on the site of an ancient hall called Perles, and by corruption Perilous hall; "Aula Periculosa;" mentioned by that name so early as the reign of Edward I. It was so called from a family of the name of Perles, or Peverells; many of whom occur in the Testa de Nevill.

Brackley hall, Great Bodyn hall, Deep hall, Bryd hall, and Well hall, are also mentioned as standing formerly on the north side of this street. The two first of these belonged to Magdalene college, as part of the property of St. John's hospital, but have been since conveyed to Trinity college. They were all formerly inhabited by students.



KETTEL HALL; BUILT IN 1615.

F. Mackenzie.

ST GILES'S CHURCH.

Published March 1 1836 by J.H. Parker, Oxford & Tilt, Fleet Street, London.

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MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.

EXTERIOR VIEW OF THE CHURCH; N. E.

The Church and Parish of St. Giles.

THE CHURCH.—This ancient edifice, dedicated to St. Giles, forms one of the most interesting subjects in this department of our Memorials.

Leaving to more poetic pages the discussion of the traditionary tales of Greeklade and Bellositum, the Meditullium of Rhedycinian ROME, with its labyrinths and subterraneous passages of stupendous magnitude, the Campus Martius, divided into several portions according to scholastic degrees [a], and all other classical remini-

[a] Wood appeals unfortunately to a charter of Hen. IV, in which he finds lands described 'in Bello Monte in Stadio vocato Midle Bradmore,' &c. This he translates, in conformity with his classical predilections for the 'Campus Martius,' the '*Race* called Middle Bradmore.' But the word, it is presumed, means nothing more than Middle Bradmore *furlong*. The lands are minutely described in the Hundred Rolls, p. 811.

scences of early days, which require only conjecture on one side, and credulity on the other; enough still remains to occupy our attention, and engage our research.

Whether in Roman, British, or Saxon times[b], any church or temple existed on this spot, which served the double purpose of a place of public worship and a convocation-house; where all academical business was transacted in the aboriginal university, must now be matter of opinion and speculation. But from the Norman Conquest, at least, we can with some degree of accuracy and continuity develope the history of this church and parish.

The earliest account of the CHURCH is by Rouse, or Ross, of Warwick; who tells us, that one Alwin, who had the surname of Godegose[c], and possessed some property in the manor, erected the original fabric about the time of the conquest; though it does not appear to have been dedicated to St. Giles till the year 1120[d]. Indeed an interval of fifty years may well be supposed to have elapsed, in those unsettled times, between the projected

[b] If the reader wishes for further information on this curious subject, he will at least find some amusement in consulting Wood's Annals, by Gutch, vol. i. pp. 1—32; Brian Twyne's Apology, p. 118; Hearne, in his edition of Leland's Itinerary, Oxford, 1745, vol. ii. p. 109, 110, and the authorities there quoted.

[c] This is an intermediate spelling between the Saxon Goðegehuȝ and Godhos, or Godhus, a name which occurs more than once in the Hundred Rolls. The name of Alwin is found in Domesday among the householders of Oxford. One is distinguished by the addition of 'Presbyter.'

[d] Wood imagined, that the dedication day and St. Giles's day were distinct anniversaries: and so they were, unless the first of September happened to fall on a Sunday; and even then perhaps, according to the general rule, the feast of the dedication was held on the Sunday after the saint's anniversary. The modern fair is still guided by the same rule; being in memory of the dedication of the church.

design and the completion of a public edifice of this kind. A considerable difference is also observable between the rude arches in the interior of the tower and that which opens into the nave.

'The revenues,' says Peshall, 'at first arose from the offerings of pious persons, to which a great addition was afterwards made by the inhabitants of Walton, who gave all their tithes, belonging to the said village, to remain for ever to the said church.' The founder is said to have appointed a clerk to perform divine service here; but some difficulties having arisen, the right was confirmed by king Henry I. and the bishop of Lincoln; who issued a mandate to the archdeacon, empowering and commanding him to induct Edwin, the son of Alwin before mentioned, into the possession of the benefice.

The same pious founder, to whom the undoubted patronage of the church belonged, about eighteen years afterwards, 1138, when the dedication of the nunnery of Godstow took place, bestowed the advowson with all its appurtenances for ever upon that religious house[e]. This grant was confirmed by the charters of the empress Matilda and her son, Henry II.

Hugh of Grenoble, bishop of Lincoln, commonly called St. Hugh, about the year 1200[f], instituted a vicar in

[e] See Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. i. p. 526, where this gift is recorded in the original charter, accompanied by some land on the 'opposite side of the city, nearest to Abingdon.'

[f] Peshall by mistake, or error of the press, says 1300. We have already mentioned St. Hugh in our account of St. Mary Magdalene Church, p. 2, 3. He was considered so great a benefactor to this church and parish, that mention is made of ringing the bells here on St. Hugh's day so late as the reign of queen Elizabeth as in Magdalene parish. He probably contributed to the enlargement of both churches, as he had a great taste for architecture.

this church, who was to receive by endowment the whole tithes of the gardens in the parish, &c.; the nuns of Godstow agreeing to sustain all ordinary burdens, except synodals; which the vicar, according to custom, was obliged to pay.

In this manner things remained till the dissolution of religious houses; when by letters patent 37 Hen. VIII. the rectory and chapel of St. Giles, with all the tithes and appurtenances, as part of the possessions of Godstow nunnery, were conveyed to John Doily and John Scudamore; who soon afterwards transferred all their right and title therein to Dr. George Owen of Godstow, the king's physician. From his son Richard, it passed 15 Eliz. together with the manor of Walton, which included part of Beaumont, to the President and Fellows of St. John's college; the founder, sir Thomas White, who died in Feb. 1566–7, having bequeathed to them by will 3000*l.* for the purchase of additional lands.

The Church is in that interesting style of architecture, generally, which marks the transition from the circular arch to the pointed. The oldest portions of the fabric have all the characteristics of the former style, though most of the arches are pointed. We frequently find circular and pointed arches used in different parts of the same building at this period, without any reason to suppose that they are therefore of a different date. But there is so striking a difference between the circular and pointed arches of this structure, that there is reason to believe, from this and other circumstances, that certain portions of the tower are considerably older than the nave and side aisles. The pointed arch is supposed to have been not generally adopted in this country before 1150; but there appears some reason to believe that it was occa-

sionally introduced long before, especially as instances are to be found of its use in Normandy even before the year 1000; and it is allowed by the best Norman antiquaries to have come gradually into use in that country, between 1050 and 1150[g]; a whole century being required to establish so prominent a departure from the universally received principle of the circular arch.

THE TOWER is evidently the oldest part of the present fabric. It is built of rubble and small stones united by a strong cement, and tied by quoins of masonry in a very substantial and durable manner. The whole is massive, particularly the lower part. On the north and south are two plain and acutely pointed arches, supported on square piers: on the west is a window of the lancet form: and on the east a lofty pointed arch, opening into the nave, supported on two massive circular columns; the capitals and bases of which closely resemble the earliest of those in the cathedral of Christ Church.

In the middle story, under the belfry[h], are four circular-headed windows of very rough workmanship, though filled on the outside with cut stone of much later date, and made to appear like mere eyelets, square at the top; one of these windows looking towards the nave, but now

[g] See a valuable essay on the architecture of Normandy by M. de Caumont, translated in the Crypt, vol. ii. p. 74; and Mr. Boid's History of Architecture, p. 116. The last named work has received the sanction of the society of Antiquaries of Caen.

[h] The accounts of the churchwardens of this parish (formerly called procurators) are still extant, and in good preservation, from the year 1492 to the present time. In 1496 there are sundry charges 'for the making of the stepoul flors.' In 1522 this entry occurs; 'For destroying the elder-tree upon the steeple, 4*d.*' In 1520, 'Paid to the carpenter, 43*s.* 4*d.*; and to the plumber, for casting the leads and laying them, 20*s.* 1*d.*' These were most probably for the roof of the tower and the partition floor under the belfry.

closed, is on a higher level and shorter than the other three. This circumstance has evidently arisen from the roof of the nave originally reaching only up to this point. In the upper story of the tower are four larger windows, each of two lights, divided by a mullion, under a pointed arch; but, instead of the usual trefoil or quatrefoil in the head, there is a mere eyelet, as before. This upper part of the tower is clearly therefore of later date than the lower part. There are no traces of a stone staircase; which there would have been, if the tower had been originally built to its present height from the foundation.

The NAVE[i] is divided from the side aisles by pointed arches supported on light cylindrical columns, with plain capitals in the Norman style: those on the north side not exactly corresponding with those on the south. The clerestory on the south is evidently a modern addition; and the marks of the ancient roof may still be traced. The present roof is of the same height as the one which immediately preceded it; though lower than a previous one, as is shewn by the gable. The windows of the clerestory are square without; but there is a slight point in the flat arch over them within.

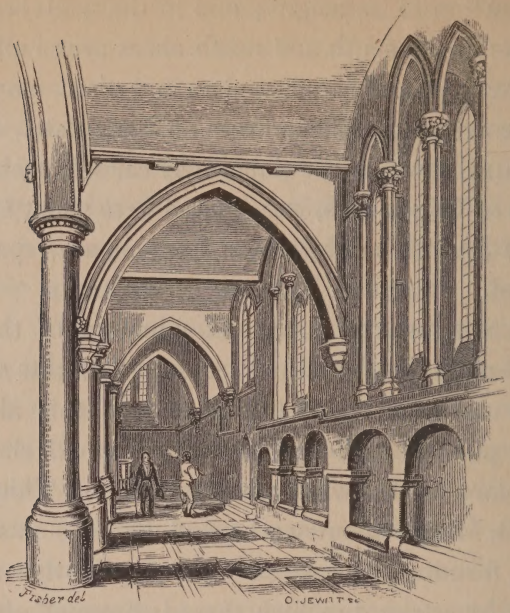
The CHANCEL is of early character, corresponding with the tower, though the window at the east end is of a somewhat later period. On the south side is a large arch of a circular form, but of remarkably large span

[i] In the years 1538, 1563, 1627–8, 1637, are various charges for repairs. It was probably at this latter period that the roof of the nave was lowered to its present level. In 1650 are some entries, shewing that repairs were then going on. In 1659, April 3, is an account of a collection by the women of St. Giles's parish, towards the repairs of the church, 'being in great decay in the time of the war.' The sums amount to 17*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* and the names of the collectors are given.

in proportion to its height; and in the wall beneath the windows of the south and north aisles are small arches of a similar form: the square piers and plain mouldings of which correspond, and indicate an early date. The communion rails, which are elaborately carved, probably from designs of Inigo Jones, were placed here about 1630. The arms of Laud, when bishop of London, are repeatedly introduced.

The SOUTH AISLE has six windows of the earliest pointed or lancet form, and one of two lights with some elegant tracery: at the east end of this aisle is an acutely pointed arch opening into a small chapel, with two square-headed windows of late date. This was probably St. Mary's chantry: beyond which is another small chapel, forming the eastern extremity of this aisle, now used as a vestry; in which there is a remarkably elegant window of the age of Edward I. or II. Near this is a piscina, marking the situation of an altar beneath the window. This perhaps was St. Catharine's altar[k].

[k] In the parish accounts of 1524, 15th Henry VIII, is a charge 'for timber and workmanship of the three altars, and for boarding of the workmen.' 1551, 6th Edward VI, 'the high altar pulled down and the painted windows, and 16*s.* bestowed on other windows.' 1553, 1st queen Mary. 'For setting the altars, clay, lime, boards, nails, and tapers. For a mass-book, 2*s.* 8*d.* For a cross, a pyx, and a chrismatory box, 8*s.*' 1556. For hallowing the altars; for painting a cloth for 'St. Catharine's altar, xx*d.*' This altar is frequently mentioned in the parish accounts; and the collection made on St. Catharine's festival is called 'St. Catharine-ship.' Various sums are recorded as received under this head, till about the year 1536; after which the item does not appear. It appears also that one of the chapels or chantries was dedicated to St. Christopher, as in 1492 we have this charge: 'To Thos. Browning, for making of St. Christopher's foot, 7*d.*' Many contributions, in rent charges and otherwise, to the mass of St. Mary, as well as to the fabric of the church, are recorded in the Hundred Rolls, 6, 7 Ed. I. But Wood notices,



THE NORTH AISLE.

The NORTH AISLE appears to have been originally a distinct chapel, or perhaps more than one, with a separate entrance from the churchyard. The three western windows are plainer than those to the eastward, but of similar form and character, the double or triple lancet under a common arch: two of the three in the eastern division being more richly ornamented, and much resembling those in the Chapter-house at Christ Church. Beneath these windows are five semicircular arches, at unequal distances; two being divided by square piers, and two by circular columns. At the east end is a piscina mark-

that 'no rents of houses came in after the alteration of religion.' Among items of expenditure in the year 1503, is a charge of 9*d.* 'for wax for the queen's dirge,' and 'for bread and ale to the ringers.' There was also a contribution of 3*d.* 'for lygth' (*lights;* Wood says, *links*) 'to the queen's dirge at S. MARIE church.' Vide Wood's MSS. in the Ashmolean Museum, D. 2. 350; and the parish books from which Wood made these extracts.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

THE RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY.

Published March 1.1834, by J.H. Parker, Oxford; C. Hilt, Fleet Street, & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

STON
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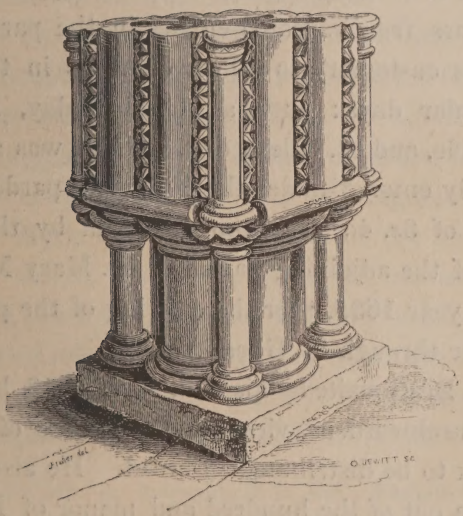
ing the situation of another altar; perhaps St. Christopher's. At the opposite extremity lie the remains of Dr. Richard Rawlinson, the founder of the Saxon professorship: near which are the tops of two stone coffins of the 12th or 13th century.

The FONT, which stands near the west end of this aisle, is square; of an elegant and uncommon design. It rests on a large central column, with slender columns at each angle, and is ornamented on every side by broad mouldings, running perpendicularly, and divided by rows of double zigzag, or chevron work; similar to the ornament at St. Cross and other places, which Dr. Milner considered as representing the inverted cup of a flower. The accompanying woodcut gives an accurate representation of it.



THE FONT.

The PORCH is of the early pointed style; both doorways being of an elegant form, and well executed. They seem to have been more injured by violence than by

time. In the churchyard, nearly opposite to this porch, is a venerable table-tomb of freestone, much decayed, to the memory of some person unknown; the sides of which are ornamented with bold quatrefoils, having rosettes in the centre. This is supposed to be the tomb, behind which a person secreted himself in Cromwell's time, to avoid some soldiers who were pursuing him; and, thus eluding them, he escaped with his life.

There was much painted glass in the windows of this church, as in many others in Oxford; which was probably destroyed in 1551, when the altars were removed; as there is a memorandum in the parish accounts, that 16*s.* were bestowed in glass windows in that year. This of course was for the plain glass substituted in the room of the other, which was displaced in compliance with the ordinances of the REFORMERS.

It appears, from repeated entries in the parish books, that it was customary to collect offerings in the church on particular days: such as, Good-Friday, Hocktide[1], Whitsuntide, and St. Giles's day. There was also a sum occasionally entered under the head of 'pardon-money.' The sum of 3*s.* 4*d.* was annually paid by the churchwardens of the adjoining parish of St. Mary Magdalene, about the year 1635, 'for the clearing of the passage for their water through St. Giles's parish.'

Richard Brathwaite by his will, dated 1643, bequeathed to the churchwardens, vicar, and overseers of St. Giles, 5*s.* a week to be distributed in bread. He also left 20*l.* per annum out of the hundred and manor of Ringwood, for a sermon to be preached in St. Giles's church every

[1] Vid. Spelman's Glossary, under 'Hocday;' M. Paris, A. D. 1255—1258. It was the second Tuesday after Easter; the 'quindena paschæ' of the lawyers.

Sunday afternoon. By a decree in the court of chancery, dated 1662, when this money was recovered [m] from Mr. William Spencer, it was ordered that the chancellor, masters, and scholars, of the university of Oxford, should choose a lawful minister to preach a lecture in St. Giles's church every Sunday in the afternoon. The same munificent person gave also 'a fair communion-table, a carpet of purple velvet fringed, a fair silver flagon, a silver chalice with a cover to it, and a silver plate for the bread [n].'

Other charities and benefactions are recorded; for the particulars of which we are under the necessity here, as in other cases, of referring the reader to the 'Report of the Charity Commissioners.'

It was thought proper in the year 1771, when an act was obtained for the establishment of a house of industry, to exempt this parish from its operation.

The HOUSE of INDUSTRY.—This structure, which, though of modest pretensions, is well adapted for its purpose, was erected in accordance with the act above mentioned in the year 1771. It is built of stone, from a design of Mr. Gwynn, the architect of Magdalene bridge and of the Market, and is intended for the reception of the poor of eleven united parishes. It consists of two stories; and the front measures 237 feet in length.

The RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY, a structure worthy of the institution, was begun Aug. 27, 1759; and opened for the reception of patients, Oct. 18, 1770. The de-

[m] So Wood's MS. in Ashmole, D. 2. 352. Peshall by mistake says, 're-corded.' Charity, as well as religion, suffered miserably during the reign of the puritanical reformers; many of whom attempted to appropriate these public benefactions to themselves; which it required the interference of the court of chancery, and at length a charity commission, to investigate and restore.

[n] Peshall, p. 218.

sign for the building was given by Mr. Leadbeater of London. It contains three stories, divided into many distinct wards and apartments, and measures 150 feet by 71ft. 1in. The ground on which it stands, which together with the garden exceeds five acres, was the gift of Thomas Rowney, esq., who was in other respects a benefactor; and one of the wards is called after his name.

The OBSERVATORY is situated at a short distance northward from the infirmary; an account of which will be found in another part of this work.

BETHLEHEM HOSPITAL.—On the north side of the church, and between the two roads, is an old[o] house or tenement, with some land adjoining, formerly called BETHLEHEM. It was originally an HOSPITAL, said to have been founded by that same Alwin Godegose, to whom the ancient fabric of the church has been ascribed. It is described in some MSS. of University college as a COTTAGE; which led Wood to think, that it had been alienated from the use of an hospital so early as 1219; when it was, among other things, purchased by the executors of William of Durham, towards the endowment of University college. But we find it denominated 'Le Spitel' nearly two hundred years afterwards; namely, in the will of John Ocle (Oakley) of Oxford, dated 1390, in which he leaves a small legacy of 11*d.* to each poor person then in the hospital[p].

The MANOR.—The ancient manor of WALTON has been nearly eclipsed by the celebrity of the royal palace

[o] Not quite so old as the church, as Peshall from Wood tells us; though the original endowment may be so; which is all that Wood intended to imply.

[p] 'Item, lego cuilibet pauperi existenti in Le Spitel juxta ecclesiam S. Ægidii xj*d.*'

of Beaumont; though the latter is a modern appellation compared with the former. Roger de Iveri held of the king *in capite* four hides of land in this manor at the time of the Norman survey[q]. Some portion, including Walton-manor farm, appears to have been given by the conqueror to his favourite Robert D'Oily, the sworn brother and fellow adventurer of Roger de Iveri. From these Norman chiefs, who seem to have experienced some difficulty in retaining their newly acquired territory, the land hereabout fell principally into the occupation of Brumman Le Rich, who himself held of the king one messuage, with a carucate of land and twenty-four acres of meadow, at a place called after him Brumman's well[r]. This opulent person, in process of time, not only gave his own land, but persuaded his lord, Robert D'Oily, to convey in perpetuity this his manor and farm to the canons of St. George in the castle; who, when they were afterwards translated to Osney, converted this farm into a grange[s].

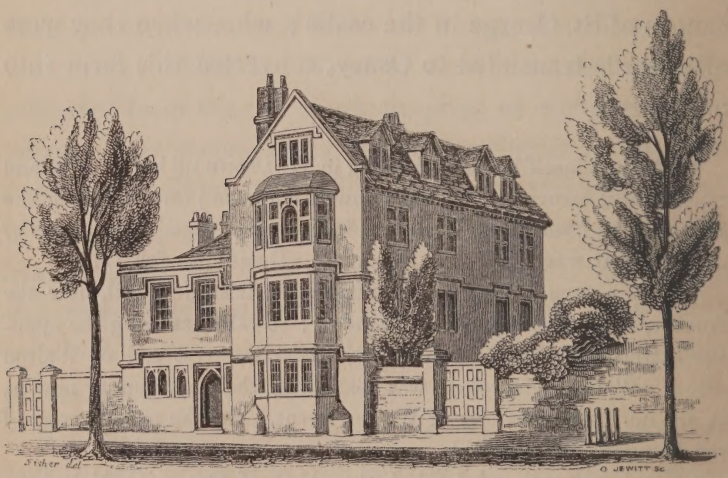
[q] 'Roger himself holds of the king in WALTONE iiij hides. The land consists of ij carucates. There is now in demesne j carucate, with one serf, and xiij boarders. There is a fishery worth xvj*d.* and vj acres of meadow. It was worth XL*s.* now LX*s.*' Domesday, fol. 159.

[r] This is supposed to be the same with Aristotle's well, near the Anchor, at the turning to Port Meadow; so called as being the opposite extremity to Plato's well, which was at the west end of Walton manor. Walton manor-farm was near where the iron-foundry now is, at the northern extremity of Walton street. See the printed copy of the Hundred Rolls, p. 811.

[s] In the survey 6 and 7 Ed. I. the abbot of Osney is said to have xiij tenements in Walton, of the gift of Henry D'Oily, &c. Of the *four* hides of land mentioned in Domesday, *three* appear to have belonged to the D'Oily family, and *one* is recorded as being exchanged by the Clintons in the time of Henry I. for lands in Iffley and Cowley. The abbess of Godstow had iij carucates without the north gate 7 Edw. I., which were valued at XXI marks.

Much of the arable land in the common fields of Walton and Beaumont belonged anciently to the prior and canons of St. Frideswide; who in the time of Robert of Ewelme gave it to the abbess and convent of Godstow, in exchange for some land more convenient for them by the river Cherwell. From that period the manor seems to have been divided into Walton Osney and Walton Godstow[t]. A composition respecting TITHES between the canons of Osney and the *minchins* or nuns of Godstow, occurs so early as 1192. The vicarage was rated the year before, in the Taxatio of pope Nicholas, at four marks per annum; the abbess of Godstow claiming a yearly pension of five marks.

There were three or four academical HALLS in the principal street of this parish, which deserve to be noticed.



BLACK HALL.

BLACK HALL is mentioned in 1361; when J. de Be-

[t] The society of St. John's college, to whom the manor and church now belong, still hold their court for Walton Osney and Walton Godstow.

reford, who was several times mayor, gave certain revenues derived from this hall, to his chantry in All Saints' church. In 1486 it was given by Joan Gille to Rewly abbey, and after the dissolution was sold to St. John's college; to which society it still belongs. The greater part of the present building appears to have been erected in the early part of the seventeenth century: it has lately been restored, and a north wing added, by its worthy occupant, Mr. Joseph Parker.

St. Margaret's Hall, not the only one of that name, was demised in 1326, 19th Edward II. by Margery Dyne, abbess of Godstow, to Walter Weston.

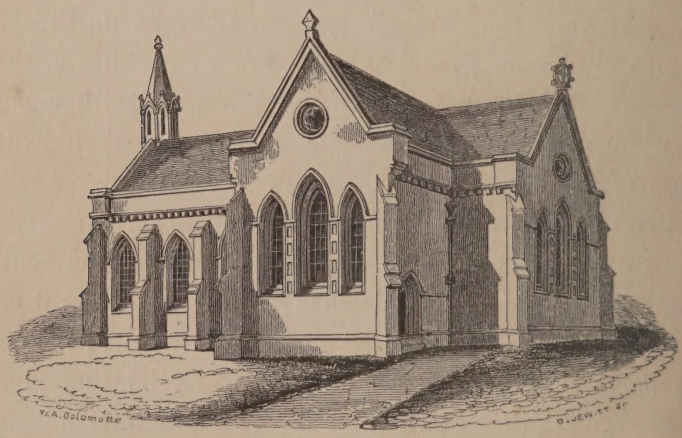
Middleton Hall, belonging also to the nunnery of Godstow, was demised by the same abbess four years afterwards, 4th Edward III, to J. Cudding. The present fabric bears the date of 1663 in the spandrels of an elliptical arch on the staircase. It is now the residence of Mr. Perceval Walsh.

Greek Hall, built of stone, was on the north side of St. John's college, and at the western extremity of this parish. In Wood's time it had a refectory, with a lantern on the roof, and several chambers for students. Part of the old premises may still be observed between the last mentioned hall and St. John's college.

Boundaries.—This parish is bounded on the south by that of St. Mary Magdalene; on the south-east it extends to the Parks; from the northern extremity of which its boundary line proceeds to the Cherwell: that river then becomes its eastern limit for nearly a mile and an half. On the north the line extends to the parish of Wolvercot and the hamlet of Cutslow; on the west it is bounded partly by a branch of the river Isis, near the

canal, but principally by Port meadow [u], and the fields adjacent. It is nearly six miles in circumference.

In the year 1773 there were only 115 houses in this parish: since that time the number has been enlarged considerably, being now above 600; and it is daily increasing. The parish has been recently enclosed. The entire population at the last census was 2,491, and the annual value of property rated to the poor is about 14,000*l.* including Summertown. A new population has lately arisen in this latter suburb, and a district church was erected in 1833 at the expense of 1600*l.* which was raised by public subscription, aided by the church-building society, and St. John's college, who engaged to provide the officiating clergyman. The design was furnished by Mr. Underwood. It contains seats for 400 persons, of which 300 are free: and is dedicated in honour of St. John the Baptist.



SUMMERTOWN CHURCH.

[u] That is 'the Town meadow;' the same which is recorded in the Domesday Survey, as the pasture belonging in common to the burgesses of Oxford; fol. 154. 2. It was anciently called PORTMANHEIT.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

HOLYWELL CHURCH.

Published Feb.1st 1835 by J.H. Parker, Oxford. C. Tilt, Fleet St. London, & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

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EAST VIEW OF THE CHURCH AND MANOR HOUSE.

HOLYWELL.

THE Church of Holywell is, correctly speaking, only a chapel belonging to the church of St. Peter in the East, and dedicated to the holy cross. It was built, or reedified, soon after the Norman conquest, by Robert D'Oiley[a], the first of that name; who rebuilt the castle, and several churches in the city and suburbs. For its subsequent history we refer our readers to our account of the mother church, whose fate it has regularly followed.

The present structure appears to be partly the work of D'Oiley, though with some considerable additions and alterations. The ground plan, as in all his churches, and most others of the same period, is a simple oblong; with the exception of a small chapel on the south side. The nave is about fourteen yards long by a little more than seven wide; and the chancel nine yards long by four and a half. The arch which connects the nave and

[a] Peshall, p. 251.

chancel is of the circular form, resting upon square piers with an abacus of two members only, ornamented with the star-moulding. On the south side of it is another arch with a circular head opening into the Lady chapel, over which is a gallery. At the west end is a tower of moderate height and dimensions, containing six bells; on some of which is the date of 1620. The belfry part was rebuilt about the year 1464 by H. Sever, warden of Merton, who appears also to have built or repaired some other parts of the church. The large window at the east end of the chancel[b], as well as some others, may be ascribed to him. The old belfry window is of lancet shape.

The parish or liberty of Holywell[c] is bounded on the south, beyond Magdalene Grove, by the parish of St.

[b] On the north and south sides of the tower are large acutely pointed arches, which have every appearance of having been intended to open into side aisles. The chapel on the south side near the entrance of the chancel has an arch which connects it with the nave, and part of another in its eastern wall, of early character. On the north side immediately opposite to it, the marks of a large arch may be distinctly seen in the masonry both on the exterior and interior. The porch has the date of 1592 cut in the stone over the door, together with three shields, containing the arms of Merton college, and the initials R. H. and W. M. In the churchyard was buried Thomas Holt, architect, of York; who gave the designs from which the Bentleys built the Schools, Merton inner quadrangle, &c. He died Sept. 9, 1624; and his epitaph in Latin iambics is printed among Peshall's monumental inscriptions. In the chancel was buried John Snell, esq. whom we have recorded as a benefactor to Balliol college. His epitaph, with that of his wife who survived him, still remains. Those of the Napiers, or Nappers, may be seen in Peshall. Here also was buried the lady of sir Digby Mackworth, bart.

[c] In 1771 it contained 131 houses; in 1833 the number was 160. The population in 1801 was 732; in 1831 it had increased to 944. The annual value of property rated to the poor in 1833 was about 7000*l.*

Peter's in the East; from which it is separated by the old city ditch which ran under the east side, and somewhat to the north of New College wall and tower, leaving the slipe between. It extends northward thence to the upper extremity of the Parks, where formerly stood a cross, dividing it from St. Giles's parish, at a place called Rome. It is continued from that extremity along Bradmore furlong almost straight to the river Cherwell. That river forms its eastern boundary; while the parishes of St. Giles and St. Mary Magdalene terminate it in one continued line along its western side, where a noble terrace-walk was formed in the year 1755.

The manor of Holywell in the Saxon times was attached to the royal manor of Heddington: it formed part of the munificent grant of the Norman conqueror to Robert D'Oiley[d], so often mentioned in our work: from his descendants it came into the possession of Henry de Oxenforde, called also Henry de S. Petro[e]. He left it to his son John de Oxenforde, bishop of Norwich, who let it to farm to J. de Brideport, rector of this church and of St. Peter's. The bishop dying without heir in the year 1200, the manor is said to have remained in the hands of the rector and his successors; but it is probable that they continued to hold it under the crown, to which it escheated by the death of the bishop. Subsequently, as one of the appurtenances to St. Peter's in the East, it was granted by king Henry III. to Bogo de Clare; and with the advowson of the mother church was settled on Merton college[f], to which it still belongs.

[d] Vide Domesday, vol. i. fol. 158.

[e] See Magdalene Parish, p. 15. Peshall, p. 242and the charter of confirmation from Henry II.

[f] See our account of Merton college, p. 7; and St. Peter's in the East, p. 5.

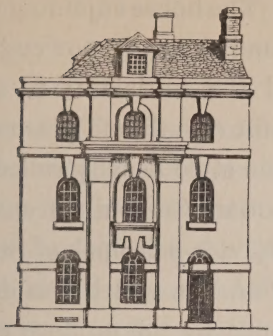
The liberties of this manor, within which a market was formerly held, were disputed with much earnestness between the city and Merton college for a long series of years[g], during which the cause was tried in a variety of forms with various success, until it was finally settled in favour of the college in the beginning of James the Second's reign, 1685.

The house of the Austin Friars, founded in 1268 by sir J. Handlow of Borestall, being included in the site of Wadham college, an account of it will be found under that head.

The present street of Holywell is evidently a continuation of the ancient Horsemonger lane; leading from the east end of that lane to Crowell and the parish cross; and having the city wall and ditch on the south. There were no houses on the south side until after the year 1600: when the fortifications having fallen into disuse the ditch was filled up, and houses erected on its site. Several of those built about this period are still remaining: one, near the tower of New College, bears the date of 1639; and the initals A. S. and C. S. on the brackets which support the projecting windows. It is built only of lath and plaster: but there are several others of stone, which appear older[h].

[g] See Peshall, pp. 243, 4, 5, where these trials are enumerated.

[h] In Loggan's accurate plan, which is a sort of bird's-eye view of the city as well as a map, the row of houses on the south side of the street appears to be nearly complete, only a few gardens intervening here and there. In Agas's map there are no houses on the south side, except one or two near our Lady's chapel; and only a few on the north, situated chiefly about the middle and east end. 'Almshouse Place' is mentioned by Wood as being in this street; but he takes no notice of Little St. Helens: St. Helen's hall being in St. Thomas's parish, called 'Le Helle' in the Valor of Hen. VIII.



SEAL'S COFFEE HOUSE.

The house at the corner of Broad street, known for many years as Seal's Coffee House, was built by sir John Vanbrugh, the architect of the Clarendon, which on a small scale it closely resembles in style. It was erected on the site of a previous one; which, with two or three others adjoining to it, was built by the university on land granted to them for the purpose by Merton college.

On the north side[i] of this street there are also several good stone houses, some of which may boast of considerable antiquity. Amongst them are the remains of two or three academical halls: Sand hall is mentioned in the archives of the city in the reigns of Edward II. and III; Grym hall, or Griffin hall, about the same period. Persover, or Pershore hall, paid 18*s*. per annum to the church of St. Michael's at North gate in the time of

i One of the oldest houses on the north side is that next to Dr. Bishop's; on the brackets of which are seen, carved in plain shields of an elegant shape, the three chevronels of the house of Clare; adopted with a counterchange of colours by Walter de Merton and his college, who succeeded to some portion of their property. The old partition transverse walls, occasionally seen between these houses, confirm Wood's statement of the manner in which the inhabitants of Oxford guarded against fire in ancient times.

Edward I. and II. The house adjoining to the Music room on the west side, and shewn in our engraving, bears the date of 1626, and the initials M. L. and A. L. on the brackets. It is built of lath and plaster, but rather picturesque, and in the style usually called Elisabethan.

The MUSIC ROOM was built from a design of Dr. Thomas Camplin[k], vice-principal of St. Edmund hall, at the expense of 1263*l.* 10*s.* which was defrayed by a public subscription, aided by the produce of two oratorios in Christ Church hall, and the performances of choral music by an amateur society at the King's head. The subscription was commenced in 1742, but the room was not opened until 1748; and the whole debt was not liquidated until 1752. Since that period regular concerts have been performed in it, which are usually well attended; but the funds are inadequate to any enlarged expenditure. It is under the management of stewards chosen from the respective colleges in the university.

MUSIC ROOM, &c.

[k] Peshall, p. 248.

At the east end of Holywell, nearly where Magdalene turret now stands, there was formerly a stone cross in the centre of the four streets which met at this point: three of them[1] remain; but the fourth, which led to the mill, has been long stopped, being inclosed in Magdalene college grove, and another road made to the mill on the north side of the grove. Not far from the cross, and immediately under the north-east corner of the city wall, was Crowell, Crow-well, or Cross-well, which is frequently mentioned as one of the boundaries of the manor. The water of this well was believed to be beneficial to the eyes, and a stone building was erected over it in 1626 by Dr. Rawlinson, principal of St. Edmund hall. Some doggrel lines were cut thereon, and are printed by Peshall, p. 250.

At the distance of about thirty yards, on the north side of the church, considerable remains of the manor house rebuilt in 1516 are still standing, as seen in our engraving, p. 1. Between this house and the church is another well, from which the parish is supposed to have taken its name. It was dedicated to St. Winifred and St. Margaret, and very much frequented for the reputed holiness of the water. Wood says[m], 'I find many per-

[1] The houses in Longwall were not built until after 1670, in which year a conference was held in the lodgings of Dr. J. Lamphire, principal of Hart hall, where were present Dr. John Fell, dean of Christ Church, and sir Sampson White, justices of the peace; G. Napier, gent. tenant to Merton college in Holywell; &c. 'This was in order for a course to be taken, that the town ditch on the east side of New College wall be drained, that buildings may be erected on it; and the owners of the said buildings may repair the way lying before their doors, viz. that way between the said ditch and Magdalene college wall that encloses the grove.' Wood's Life, p. 241.

[m] Peshall, p. 253. Some persons are of opinion that the holy well

sons yearly relieved by these wholesome waters to this day.' At present they have entirely lost their former celebrity, and are deserted for more fashionable springs. The water is remarkably pure, intensely cold, but seldom freezes: there is still a cold bath, but it has few visitors. About the year 1488 Dr. Fitzjames, warden of Merton, erected a stone building over it, 'to receive the prayers of people.' The present building is in good repair.

In Holywell green and the meadows adjoining, the double zigzag entrenchments or leaguers thrown up for the defence of the city in the time of Charles I. may be very distinctly traced as far as the gardens of Wadham college. The embankment on the north and east sides of the warden's garden formed part of them.

HOLYWELL MILL.

was not situated as here described by Wood, but in Jackson's or Holywell green, about a hundred yards due east of the church, where there is a well, called Jenny Newton's well, still in some repute for 'curing the eyes.' But Wood's statement is explicit, and there are no remains of any building on this spot. In the map by Agas Crowell is denominated 'Holiwell.' But all these wells were much esteemed by the inhabitants, and it was found useful to hold them sacred.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

ST CLEMENTS CHURCH.

FROM MAGDALEN WALK.

Published Feb.ry 1st 1836 by J.H. Parker, Oxford, C. Tilt Fleet St.t London & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

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ST. CLEMENT'S.

THE OLD CHURCH.

THE earliest mention of a church here in authentic records is in 1122, when it is enumerated amongst the churches granted or confirmed to the canons of St. Frideswide by king Henry I. How long before this period it was built is uncertain: but probably not many years; since the oldest parts of the church, lately pulled down, corresponded with the style of that period. Very soon after this grant or confirmation to the monastery of St. Frideswide, there was a great dispute between that society and the abbey of Oseney respecting the tithes of the property which belonged to the abbey in this parish. This was at length settled by a sort of compromise; or, as Wood states, 'a composition made in St. Mary's church before a synod, and in the presence of Mr. Nicholas, deputy archdeacon of Oxford, about the foundation of Oseney abbey, anno 1126.' The rectory is now in the patronage of the crown. The old church underwent many repairs and alterations by the insertion of windows, &c. as usual: but the small oblong ground plan remained, and probably for the most part the ori-

ginal walls, until the year 1829, when the new church being completed the old one was taken down as no longer necessary.

The new church was built in 1827 and 1828, under the direction of a committee who had undertaken the management of the funds, which were raised by subscription, and it was consecrated in June, 1828. The former church had been for many years in a very bad state of repair, and had been rendered quite inadequate to the wants of the parish by the very rapid increase of the population[n], which consisted chiefly of the lower orders of society. In this juncture, the members of the university and inhabitants of the city came forward with their usual liberality, and with the assistance of a grant of 500*l.* from the commissioners for building and enlarging churches, the necessary sum was raised. The ground on which the church was built, with the churchyard, was given by sir Joseph Lock: but the whole expense of the church and decorations amounted to 6,500*l.*

The parish of St. Clement[o] is situated in the hundred

[n] In 1801 there were only 413 inhabitants; in the course of the next ten years, to 1811, they had increased only to 488; but in 1821 the number was nearly doubled, being then 770: and in the last ten years the increase has been still more rapid, the number in 1831 being 1,836. This extraordinary increase was occasioned in a great degree by some extensive building speculations; encouraged, as in so many other instances, by the abuse of the poor-laws, which insured a profit to the builders at the expense of the parish. In 1771 there were only seventy houses in the parish; in 1834 there were 396.

The annual value of property rated to the poor in 1834 was about 6000*l.*

[o] This parish extends from a mark on Magdalene bridge eastward about half a mile, where it is bounded by the parish of Heddington, on the north by Marston, and on the south by Cowley, which extends to within thirty yards of the bridge, and some of the houses in that

of Bullington, and divided from the city of Oxford by the river Cherwell: but it is included in the new limits laid down under the Reform Act, and the inhabitants now have votes for the city. It was formerly called the Manor of Bruggeset; and in the Saxon times belonged to the crown, together with the adjoining manor of Heddington, and the five forests of Shotover, Stowood[o], Woodstock, Cornbury, and Wychwood. Several parcels of land in Bruggeset, Heddington, and Cowley, were given to the priory of St. Frideswide by successive kings, and confirmed by king Ethelred in the year 1004. The manor house, which went by the name of Shipton or Scipton[p], afterwards Boll-shipton, served as a refuge for

parish are included in the new boundary of the city under the Reform Act.

There are several charities in this parish, some of which require notice. The hospital or almshouse, on the south side of the road, was built in 1700 by the rev. William Stone, principal of New Inn hall; assisted by Dr. Fry of Trinity college; who gave 1000*l.* and superintended the building, as executor of Mr. Stone. The foundation was for eight widows; and an estate was left for its support in the hands of six trustees, of whom the Vice-chancellor for the time being is always one.

Nearly opposite to it is another row of almshouses, of particularly neat appearance, with a hedge of viburnum before them, built in 1780 by Edmund Boulter, esq. of Hasely Court, Oxon, and endowed for the support of six poor men, and a medical attendant, who resides in the central house, and is bound also to give his advice gratis to the poor generally who may apply to him.

Certain tenements and ground rents in this parish, called Dawson's charity, are under the management of trustees, for the 'repair of the church and the relief of the poor:' at present they produce a very small annual income; but according to a recent decision in the court of chancery, the existing leases are forbidden to be renewed: when they fall in, the estate will be of much value and importance to the parish.

[o] 'Staworde,' in Domesday; a kind of intermediate link of orthography, which connects Stafford (or Stanford) grove with Sto-wood.

[p] It is mentioned in the Domesday survey incidentally thus: 'Rex

the monks when their priory was so much damaged by the Danes, who set fire to it, and are commonly but erroneously said to have destroyed it.

The canons of St. Frideswide were lords of this manor[q], and held a court-leet twice a year, at which their tenants attended, not only from the manor itself, but also from Marston, Ellesfield, Heddington, and Cowley. It was exempted by a charter from the jurisdiction of the court held at Heddington, to which the greater part of the hundred of Bullington, or Bolendon, acknowledged suit and service.

The nature of the soil[r] and the softness of the stone found in this neighbourhood render it difficult to keep the principal roadway in good repair. This difficulty, and the expense attending it, appear to have been felt from a very early period: for we are told that king Richard II, understanding how deep it was, and dangerous for passengers both on foot and horseback, as also for carts, commanded by his letters patent, in the sixth year of his reign, Richard Forester of Bekkeley, (Beckley,) to take certain customs of all wares for two years' space, that came over the said way to Oxford, or any place else,

unam mansionem habet reddentem vj*d.* pertinentem ad Sciptone.' fol. 154. The remains of it were pulled down with some other houses in 1642, when Oxford was garrisoned by the royalist forces, with a view to the formation of a bulwark on this side, which was built across the street, a little to the east of the old church. Wood ap. Peshall, p. 285.

[q] See Wood ap. Peshall, pp. 281, 282.

[r] The soil is a stiff clay: many attempts have been made to bore through it for water, but in vain. The parish is now supplied with water conveyed by pipes from the spring on Heddington hill, and distributed among the inhabitants by means of pumps placed at the end of each street. The expense of this useful and charitable work was defrayed by public subscription in 1833.

to be sold: the money so raised to be applied to the repair of this road and of the bridge adjoining: which is said to have been effectually done for many years after: but in the time of Henry VIII. we find that cardinal Wolsey was obliged to expend a large sum on the repair of this road for the conveyance of stone, &c. to his works at Christ Church[s]. The southern road leading to Henley by Rosehill is of modern date. The middle road by Cowley marsh and Bartholomew's hospital is more ancient: being mentioned by the name of London street in the charters of Oseney and St. Frideswide's monasteries[t]. It also occurs by this name in a deed cited by Wood, of the 18th of Edward II. Dr. Claymund, president of Corpus, in the reign of Henry VIII, is said to have repaired the road, at which time there were many houses by the side of it, quite to the old church of St. Clement's. Dr. Plot imagined[u], that in his time the remains of a Roman road were very distinctly to be traced on Heddington hill, near the favourite elm tree of Josiah Pullen, vice-principal of Magdalene hall, who died in 1714[v], and

[s] See our account of Christ Church, p. 50; Gutch's Collectanea Curiosa, vol. i. p. 205.

[t] Or, 'Londonysche strete;' called also 'regia via' in ancient charters; because this was the high road to London long before either of the other two roads was projected. It passed under Shotover hill towards Horsepath; where it crossed another very ancient bridle road, or vicinal way, leading from the north-eastern side of the county to Dorchester, Benson, and Wallingford by Garsington. See Roman stations in Hearne's Appendix to Leland's Itinerary, vol. ii. p. 111, second edit. 1744.

[u] See Plot's Oxfordshire, pp. 325, 326. edit. 2nd. 1705.

[v] Mr. Gutch says in 1715, æt. 90, in the account of his portrait in the picture gallery; but he afterwards corrects his statement thus: 'J. Pullen, ob. 1714, æt. 83.' V. Wood's Annals, II. II. 968, 984. He was buried in the Lady chapel, on the north side of St. Peter's

leading from thence across Marston lane, in the direction of St. Giles's church passing to the north of Holywell church, near which there was a bridge[w].

About half a mile from Magdalene bridge, and a little to the north of the road to Cowley, stand the remains of St. Bartholomew's hospital[x], already mentioned; which, though extraparochial, was originally a part of the royal manor of Heddington. The chapel, which is in a tolerably perfect state, was rebuilt in the reign of Edward II. and had the good fortune to be spared when the other buildings of the hospital were destroyed in the civil wars. (See p. 16.) This hospital was founded by king Henry I.[y] for lepers soon after the erection of his palace at Beaumont, and was intended for the habitation of twelve brethren and a chaplain: being endowed by the king with the sum of XXIIII*l.* V*d.* per annum, from the fee-farm rent anciently payable to the crown from the city of Oxford. A long list of minor contributions of tenements and lands has been preserved by Wood; amongst which appears one from Juliana, the daughter of Robert de S. Remigio, to be paid out of the rent of her mill at Iffley[z].

Notwithstanding the foundation was originally so well settled and maintained, yet in the reign of king Edward II. it was reduced to so great poverty, that it became necessary to diminish the number of brethren to six infirm and two sound. For this purpose, a new charter was obtained, at the solicitation of the brethren and the intercession of the dowager queen Margaret, who was their patroness: this charter is printed at length in Dugdale's Monasticon[a]. In the year 1328 Adam de Brom solicited and obtained from king Edward III. the grant of this hospital, and all its endowments, for the use of his

church in the East; with this inscription on a flat stone:—'JOSIA PULLEN, A. M. aula Magd. 57 annos Vice Princip. necnon hujusce ecclesiae pastor 39 annos, ob. 31 Dec. 1714.'

[w] There are still remaining (1834) the foundations of an old stone bridge under the water in the favourite bathing-place, a little to the north of the church, called Loggerhead, i. e. *Leaguer*-head.

[x] See Oriel college, p. 8, where there is an engraving of the chapel in its present state.

[y] Wood ap. Peshall, p. 273—280; Tanner's Notitia Monastica, p. 241; Hearne's Appendix to Leland's Itinerary, vol. ii. p. 116. ed. 2nd.

[z] See our account of Iffley parish, p. 2 and 16.

[a] Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. ii. p. 407.

new society; but upon condition that they should take upon themselves the maintenance of the chaplain and eight brethren, whose places were to be successively filled up according to the directions of the charter granted by his predecessor. Within a few years after this grant, the city of Oxford refused to continue the payment of 23*l.* 5*d.* from the fee-farm rent[b]. This gave rise to a succession of lawsuits between the corporation and the college, in which however the college was always successful. But in the 27th Henry VIII. a composition was made between the parties, who agreed to abide by the arbitration of J. Hales and T. Walsh, barons of the exchequer.

The arbitrators reduced the annual payment from 23*l.* 5*d.* to 19*l.*: they also awarded that in all future vacancies a preference should be given to freemen of the city of Oxford. This arrangement has continued in force to the present day; and the 'Bartlemas' men, with their cloaks and badges, are well known to every inhabitant of Oxford. But that which was originally a sufficient provision for a decent maintenance has dwindled into a miserable pittance, in consequence of the immense change in the value of money, which has in so many instances defrauded the intentions of our pious ancestors[c].

At the time of Domesday survey, the burgesses of Oxford paid to the conqueror 60*l.* per annum, for toll, gable, and other customs and privileges. That sum was increased to 63*l.* 5*d.* in the reign of Hen. I; and in consideration of such annual payment the burgesses (as is expressed in the charter granted to them by king John) were to hold the town, with all its liberties, free customs, meadows, fisheries, &c. as a *perpetual farm*, of the king and his successors. The sum of 23*l.* 5*d.* having been granted out of this *fee-farm rent* to the almsmen, the remaining 40*l.* was paid by the city annually to the exchequer. But an act having been passed, appointing commissioners for the purpose of selling and alienating fee-farm and other unimprovable rents, belonging to the crown, the citizens entered into an agreement with the

[b] This sum is therefore entered in *Italics* in the Valor of Hen. viij. II. 243; with this memorandum annexed: 'Detrahitur per burgenses, et ideo nihil; sed salvo semper inde jure collegii.'

[c] Appendix to Leland's Itinerary, vol. ii. p. 117. The sum paid to the brethren, as fixed at the time of the second foundation, 9th Edward II. was 9*d.* a week; and the same money payment is continued to the present day. At the period mentioned, 1316, the average price of wheat was about 7*s.* a quarter; oxen about 10*s.*; bacon hogs, 3*s.* 4*d.*; and ducks, 1*d.* See Lloyd's prices of Corn in Oxford, p. 15 and 44.

said commissioners, on the payment of 960*l.* in Feb. 1787, to exempt themselves for ever from this ancient claim for rent: the portion, however, assigned to the almsmen by the corporation in the time of Henry VIII. viz. 19*l.* per annum, is still paid by the city through its chamberlains to Oriel college, for the use of the eight almsmen. These poor men also receive annually a few shillings from Christ Church and All Souls' college, and a reserved rent of 32*s.* per annum from a tenement in the Cornmarket, now occupied by Mr. Scott. They constantly prefer their claim for a fee on every civic election, and even from grand compounders, and those who are admitted to superior degrees in the university. They have not for many years inhabited the hospital. The old building, in the year 1643, was used as a pest-house during the plague; but being demolished during the siege of Oxford, it was rebuilt as we now see it in 1649 by Oriel college. In 1833 the present building was fitted up by the board of health, as a temporary residence for cholera patients.

JOE PULLEN'S TREE.

F.Mackenzie. J.Le Keux.

ST THOMAS'S CHURCH.

Published Nov^r 1^st 1835, by J.H.Parker, Oxford. C.Tilt Fleet St^t London; & J.Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

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MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.

RUINS OF REWLEY ABBEY.

Church and Parish of St. Thomas.

The Church. This edifice was founded in 1141, by the canons of Oseney, partly for the use of the parishioners of St. George's, who were deprived of access to their parish church, within the precincts of the castle, when the empress Maud was closely besieged therein by king Stephen[a]. It was built on the moiety of seventeen acres and a half of land granted to the abbey by Bernard de St. Waleri out of his lordship of Oseney. This church, or chapel, was originally dedicated to the

[a] See Wood ap. Peshall, p. 314; and Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. II. 137; who refers in the margin to a MS. in C. C. C. B. 2. f. 7. a. The church is there called 'Capella S. Thomæ;' but in the Oseney book, as printed by Peshall, it is 'ecca S. Thomæ.' 'Parochia S. Thomæ' occurs in the hundred rolls, p. 788. It is sometimes called St. Thomas *the Martyr;* whence the popular notion, that it was dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket; but the Apostle of that name had suffered martyrdom many ages before Thomas à Becket was canonized.

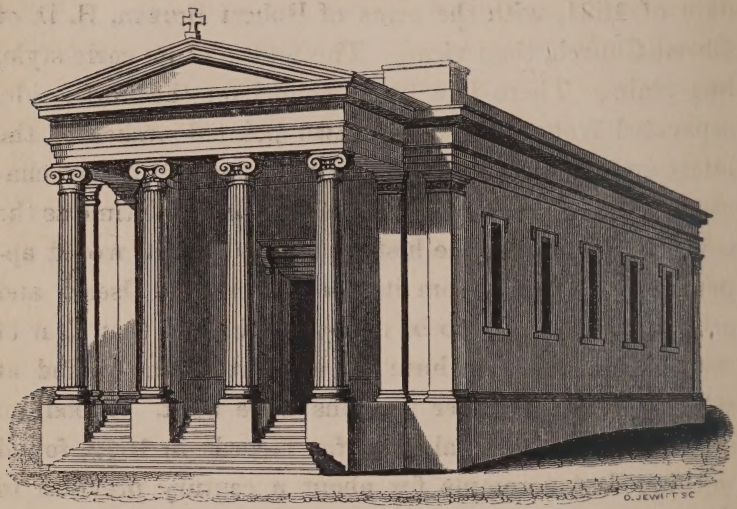
memory of St. Nicholas, bishop of Myra: it was then of very small dimensions, and after the conclusion of the siege fell into disuse until the next century; when the number of servants and retainers of Oseney increasing with the wealth and importance of the abbey, they required a chapel to themselves; and permission was accordingly obtained from Hugh, bishop of Lincoln, to restore and enlarge the chapel of St. Nicholas, described to be 'ante januam curiæ Oseney.' A chaplain was also appointed at 40*s.* per annum. In 1521 it was again consecrated to its original patron, St. Nicholas, by J. Longland, bishop of Lincoln; but the name of St. Thomas still continues. After the dissolution of the abbey the advowson fell to the crown, and was granted to Christ Church; to which society it still belongs. It is called by Peshall 'a donative, worth about 50*l.* per annum.' The present building has undergone so many repairs and alterations, that very little of the original fabric remains. The popular tradition mentioned by Wood, that the chancel was the only part originally built, and the rest of the church subsequently added, accounts for the different denominations which we find of the 'chapel' of St. 'Nicholas' and the 'church' of St. 'Thomas;' though the nave in all probability was added at no great distance of time from the chancel, as some lancet windows of early character still remain on the north side. Nearly the whole of the south side was rebuilt within the last few years, when the church was thoroughly repaired and fitted up afresh; but an original doorway has been preserved in the chancel, of the peculiar form adopted at Carnarvon castle, of which we have also a specimen at Merton, and another still remains in the ruins of Rewley abbey. There is also a small circular headed win-

dow of the date of the original fabric on the north side of the chancel, and the east window is a good specimen of the ramified or curvilinear style of the fourteenth century, lately called by Mr. Rickman the 'flamboyant.' The tower appears to have been built about the time of the last consecration by bishop Longland. The porch bears the date of 1621, with the arms of Robert Burton, B. D. of Christ Church, then vicar. The font is of an early style, but plain. There is a small chapel on the north side, separated from the nave by two pointed arches of the latest style, and containing two windows of similar character: this was probably built about the same time as the tower; but though the history of this church would appear at first sight, from its connexion with Oseney and other circumstances, to be more fully known than that of most others, yet we have no account of the period at which any of the later portions were built. Wood, on searching the parochial chest for records in 1679, found nothing but accompts for about a century previous to that time[b]: these perhaps he did not much examine.

The boundaries of the PARISH extend from the bridge near Mr. Tawney's brewhouse, down the river to Preachers' pool, near the gas-works; thence across the meadows to within a short distance of Ferry Hinksey, and to the bridge adjoining Botley mill; then to Medley, and passing by the southern boundary of Port Meadow, to Jericho house; thence along Walton street to the Canal wharf, and through the eastern and southern parts of the Castle to the Castle mills.

[b] See his memorandum to this effect among his extracts from parochial and other evidences. MSS. Ashm. D. 2. p. 348. In p. 501 he states, that he had perused 148 charters 'in St. Tho. box' among the records of Oseney preserved in the treasury at Ch. Ch.

In 1771 it contained only 174 houses; in 1833 the number had increased to 653: the population being 3277 according to the census of 1831, which is daily increasing; the present number being probably about 3400. The annual value of property rated to the poor is estimated at 14,600*l.*



THE NEW DISTRICT CHURCH, ERECTED 1835.

A district church has been recently erected by subscription near the University Printing House, for the accommodation of the northern division of the parish. The length of it is 80 feet, the breadth 39; and it is calculated to contain 900 persons. The design, which is Ionic, was furnished by Mr. Underwood.

This extensive parish comprises the greater part of the western suburbs of the city, including the ancient parish of St. George, together with the site of the abbeys of Oseney and Rewley, &c. We cannot therefore close our account without some mention of these ancient institutions, though now fallen to decay.

ST. GEORGE'S church was originally only a chapel for the use of the inhabitants and garrison of the Castle, but was afterwards made a parish church. It was built or rebuilt by Robert D'Oilly the first[c], in 1074. He also settled a society of secular canons therein, called St. George's college; but this society lasted little more than fifty years, when it was given by Robert D'Oilly the second to his newly founded abbey of Oseney: after this period the college was occupied by regulars and by poor scholars of the university, chiefly supported by the canons of Oseney, and it continued to be used for this purpose until the dissolution. Perhaps we ought here to notice the site of some very early edifices, though not strictly within the bounds of this parish.

ST. BENEDICT'S church[d] was situated in the immediate suburbs, just without the west gate of the city, and adjoining to it, on part of the ground now occupied by Paradise garden[e]. It is mentioned as one of the churches repaired by Robert D'Oilly the first, soon after the Norman conquest, when the barony of Oxford was allotted to him: but a great part of the parish being subsequently included within the enlarged limits of the Castle, the remainder was united to St. Budoc's, which was situated about three hundred yards to the west of it, and seems also to have been founded before the conquest. Both these parishes were soon afterwards united to St. George's; and the churches having fallen to decay, the site was

[c] Peshall, p. 208. See also our account of Oxford Castle, and Tanner's Notitia Monastica, p. 418; Kennett's Parochial Antiquities, p. 60; Stevens' Supplement to Dugdale, vol. II. p. 115.

[d] ST. BENEDICT'S church, though in the WESTERN SUBURBS, was in ST. EBBE'S parish, not in that of ST. THOMAS.

[e] Wood, ap. Peshall, p. 296.

given by Henry III. to the penitential friars: on which, having obtained permission from the canons of Oseney, they built themselves a house and oratory out of the ruins of the churches of St. Benedict and St. Budoc: here they continued until about 1307, when their order being prohibited in England, their possessions came into the hands of King Edward II, who gave them to the adjoining monastery of the Franciscans: their house was soon afterwards pulled down, and the site added to the gardens of that monastery.

REMAINS OF OSENEY ABBEY, NEAR THE MILL.

Oseney Abbey[f]. This celebrated abbey was founded in 1129 by Robert D'Oilly the second, the nephew of the first of that name, at the instance of his wife Edith, and

[f] See Peshall, p. 301–311; Tanner's Notitia Monastica, 419; Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. II. 136; Kennett's Parochial Antiquities, 104; Stevens' Suppt. II. 118. Oseney is mentioned in a hundred instances in the Inquisition Rolls of Ed. j. but the references are chiefly to be found in the 'Index Nominum.'

was handsomely endowed by him, at first as a priory of Augustinian monks; but so many other benefactions poured in, that it soon became an abbey, and ultimately one of the largest and most magnificent in the kingdom; distinguished equally for its wealth and importance. From the great extent and splendour of its buildings, Wood says, 'it was one of the first ornaments and wonders of this place and nation.' It was situated in an island formed by different branches of the Ouse, Isis, or Thames; whence it derived its name. The buildings extended from the mill, which still bears the original name, nearly to St. Thomas's church; the numerous habitations of the almsmen and dependents of the abbey being comprised within it.

The church, dedicated in honour of St. Mary the Virgin, was lofty and magnificent, with two towers; one in the centre, the other at the west end; in which latter was contained a peal of bells celebrated as the best in England at that time. These were removed to Christ Church, and still deserve their fame. The edifice was enriched with a variety of chapels; having not less than twenty-four distinct altars. Being rebuilt, or enlarged, about 1247, it received so many additions, that it 'became at length a most beautiful and large fabric, second to none in the kingdom.' The abbot's house was also celebrated for its splendour, and was frequently honoured by the company of kings, prelates, and nobles of the first rank; having a hall 'more befitting a common society than a private man,' as it is described in Stevens' Supplement. It was beyond the common court or quadrangle westward. The cloisters, the kitchen, the great hall, or public refectory, &c. were all on a corresponding scale of magnificence. Of the latter it is said, that the stone stairs which led to it were so broad, that five or six men

could go up abreast. The infirmary was close to the river, on the south side of the great quadrangle. King Henry III, after he had raised the siege before Kenilworth castle, passed his Christmas here; celebrating the time for seven days' space 'with great revelling and mirth[g].'

Of all these gorgeous buildings scarcely a vestige remains, and had not a knowledge of the site been preserved by tradition and by the diligence of our faithful antiquaries, it would be impossible now even to guess where they stood. The curious may however be satisfied by having the precise spot pointed out to them. It may be tolerably well ascertained by a reference to Stevens, vol. II. p. 121-2. Some unevenness of ground, in the broad and fertile meadow between St. Thomas's church and the mill, marks the site of the great quadrangle; on the east side of which stood the church[h]. The refectory was on the south, which was connected with the church and other buildings by a spacious cloister on either side. Some remains of the outbuildings may still be seen near the present sawing-mill.

The footway or passage to the abbey was over the small bridge called Bookbinders' bridge, close to Mr. Morrell's brewery, through the Hamel[i], thence by Church lane to the smaller gate of the abbey; adjoining to which was a

[g] Stevens, Supplement to the Monasticon, vol. II. p. 123.

[h] There is an engraving of this church in a half ruinous state, from a drawing procured by Aubrey just before the rebellion, in Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. II. p. 136; also a small view of the ruins in the corner of Agas's map; and a curious representation of them in a more perfect state on the stained glass window over bishop King's monument in Christ Church cathedral.

[i] It appears that there were houses on both sides of the Hamel at an early period, inhabited chiefly by bookbinders, whence the name of Bookbinders' bridge. The ground given to the abbey soon after the

row of buildings extending to the great gate, comprising an almshouse and a house called "Domus Dei," erected for the poorer clerks and indigent servants of the abbey.

The pleasant walks by the river side, planted with elm trees, are frequently mentioned: and these may still be distinctly traced, extending from the site of the abbey to that branch of the Isis which passes by the west side of Paradise garden, and of the new streets called Friars and Black Friars, and which separated their possessions from those of the Franciscans and Dominicans. The monks had also a house of retirement at Medley, near the lock, but of this no traces remain; though there is reason to suppose, that Mr. Tuckwell's rural mansion occupies the site of it.

Hithe bridge, now usually written High bridge, was so called from the hithe or wharf adjoining; *hithe* being a Saxon word, signifying a landing-place to receive wares out of barges or other vessels: hence we have Queen-hithe, Rother-hithe, Maiden-hithe, corrupted into Maidenhead, &c. The road from Oxford to Witney formerly passed over this bridge, coming from the north gate down Thames street, now George lane, and was continued along a narrow causeway to Botley, parts of which may still be seen on the south side of the road near the latter[1]. The present noble causeway with its

original foundation, by Phillipa Basset, countess of Warwick, under the name of the close of the Ham, or Ham-close, &c. was distinct from the Hamel; which implies the 'Little Ham.' The 'clausum de Hamme' is described as 'retro molendinum *Fulerez* de Oseney,' behind the *fullers' mill* of Oseney. Dugd. Mon. II. 142.

[1] This causeway is said by Wood (ap. Peshall, p. 233) to have been made in the time of Edward VI. by lord Williams of Thame, previously to which the road to Ensham was by Binsey. The bridges

seven bridges was made under an act of parliament in 1766; at which period a part of the Castle yard and moat were also taken into the new road.

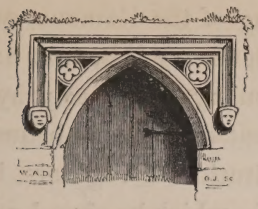
The abbot and convent of Oseney were in possession of a great number of academic halls in Oxford; but we can only mention two in this parish; MARYON hall, and ST. HELEN'S. The former was on the right hand near Bookbinders' bridge[m], opposite to St. CATHARINE'S, a house at the corner so called from the fraternity of that name. ST. HELEN'S, or Le Helle, was a hall in king John's time; but so called from Philip de S. Helena, who purchased it of Andrew Halgod in the reign of Henry III. This house came into the possession of Christ Church with the other property of the abbey hereabout[n].

however were repaired or rebuilt by Dr. Claymund, president of C.C.C. as recorded by Shepreve in these lines:

'Quis nescit longo constructos ordine pontes
In medio prati, Botlea parva tui?'

[m] 'In p'och. S. Tho. vel. Georgii. Cotagium vocat' Marione hall 7*s*. p' sacrist' Oseney. *Soe* a rentall w^ch^ I have for y^e^ situation of it 1498. It seems to be about y^e^ corner ov' ag'st y^e^ red ox.' Wood, MSS. Ashm. 8513. D. 2, p. 478.

[n] Many curious documents relating to Oseney abbey, with copious extracts from the registers at Ch. Ch. are preserved in Wood's MSS. in the Ashmole Museum. Among other particulars recorded are certain charges and payments made by Thomas Daye, from the feast of the annunciation of our Lady 36 Hen. viij. until the surrender of the abbey, and after the surrender till 38 Hen. viij. (1545–7.) 'Imprimis, for hedging the dove-house close round about, &c. Item, for wyne to sir John Williams...dede of surrender of...It: to y^e^ dychers y^t^ cast y^e^ dyches in y^e^ Aley medowe (probably Church-lane meadow) in p^t^ of their bargaine XXd. It: for Mr. Ellys his dinner y^e^ kyngs mason & his companions dinner at Abyngton, w^n^ he appointed stuffe of Abington church for X^t^ Ch. y^e^ first time iiij*s*. ij*d*. It: p^d^ to y^e^ tything men of St. Nich: parish of Oxon for searching for yron barrs of a window taken away from Osney iiij*d*. It: payd to y^e^ cook hyred by Davy Barb' to dresse dinner at y^e^ coming of y^e^



ANCIENT DOORWAY IN THE WALL AT REWLEY.

REWLEY ABBEY. This royal abbey, occupying the nothern part of the island of Oseney, and therefore called NORTH OSENEY, was founded in 1279 by Ed-

comissioners to Osney viij*d.*' (Then follow 'workmans wages at Osney & S. Frideswyde's,' &c. 1546) Imprimus to Popingiaye y^e^ ioyner for taking downe y^e^ stalls & sides of y^e^ quire & high aultar & other things in y^e^ chnrch (Oseney) 5*s.* 4*d.* It: to y^e^ said Popingiaye for himself 3 dayes at taking downe y^e^ roof of y^e^ church 18*d.* It. p^d^ to Robinson y^e^ mason for stones and carriage therof for y^e^ fulling myll 26*s.* 8*d.* It: to y^e^ carpenter of Radley for S. days working on y^e^ bridge at Frideswydes 7 dayes 16*d.* It. to a laborer y^t^ helped y^e^ slatters at Edward hall 2*d.* p^d^ to Mr. Raynolds for melting y^e^ lead of y^e^ church and casting it into sowes 16*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* p^d^ to Will: plumer for taking downe y^e^ lead of y^e^ cloyster & casting it into sowes 4*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* p^d^ to Steph. Carter for carriage of 50 loade of stone from y^e^ white fryers to frideswydes 11*s.* 6*d.* p^d^ also to D'ewe y^e^ carter for carriage of 40 loade of stone to y^e^ wall at frideswides & hye bridge. &. xi*s.* (*This stone as I think cae from Osney. There be div's payments to labourers at y^e^ wall of St. frid. q' w^t^. wall.* A. W.) It. p^d^ to Joh: Wesburne cheife carpenter taking downe y^e^ bells for 6 dayes iiij*s.* It. to Jeffrey Vyne iiij dayes about taking downe the battlements of y^e^ church & upon y^e^ porche. It: p^d^ to Willouby of Einsham for carriage of the *great bell* to Frydeswides 26 Sept. xx*s.* It. to Walter Dewe carter for carriage of gravell stone and clay to y^e^ locke & y^e^ myll & St. Nicholas church one lode, in all 27 lode 4*s.* 8*d.* It. to Mr. Nicholas y^e^ glasier for his work at Frideswide & for his glasse of y^e^ ares (*armes*) & images 9 Oct. 8^ti.^ It. to Tho. Daniell carpenter upon Frideswides bridge & at Osney 6 dayes 3*s.* 6*d.* (S. frid'bridge i.e. mill ham bridge, *A. W. in marg.*) It. to John Edwards

mund, earl of Cornwall [o], in pursuance of the will of his father Richard, king of the Romans, second son of King John, and brother of Henry III; who had directed a foundation of three secular priests to pray for his soul: but his son thinking that his father's bequest would be better fulfilled by an institution of regulars, began this foundation accordingly; in which he placed an abbot and fifteen monks of the Cistercian order brought from Thame abbey. The founder gave them, for their support, all his lands and tenements in North Oseney, in the parish of St. Thomas; only retaining to himself and his heirs a sufficient place in which to hold his court for the honour of St. Waleri. Part of this reserved piece of ground, consisting of sixteen acres on the west side of the abbey, was afterwards given to them by Edward I. at the desire of the founder, for the enlargement of their walks. The lands thus granted to the abbey were exempted from all suit or service to any court or hundred, as well as from the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the bishop, and from all taxations and subsidies.

carpenter for taking downe of y^e^ roof of y^e^ frater house at Abingdon in pt. of his bargaine xx*s.* It. to a laborer pulling downe stone at Osney church for y^e^ masons y^t^ took y^e^ wall to taske at frideswyde iiij dayes xix*d.* *Wall at Friswyds.* Imprimis paid to workmen beginning y^e^ foundation of y^e^ wall at frideswides y^e^ morrow after Ashwednesday. It. to a laborer Alex. Cooke pulling downe stone at y^e^ white fryers for y^e^ wall. 6 dayes 2*s.* 5*d.* It. pd. to Rafe dyxon Mrs. Deans servant for to deliv' to Mr. Hyb'den for y^e^ Almes. Slatt at Osny Kitchen taken downe. y^e^ Kitchen & fermory (infirmary) taken downe at Osney by Joh. Westburne & his 3. men ij days & himselfe 1 day & an halfe iiij*s.* It. to Marsh for carriage of 4 lode of slatte & timb' of y^e^ Kitchen & fermory 13*s.* 8*d.*' MSS. Ashm. 8513. Wood, D. 2. p. 584–6.

[o] For further particulars respecting this abbey, see Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. I. 934; Stevens' Supplement, vol. II. 50; and Hearne's Appendix to Leland's Itinerary, vol. II. p. 71.

The church, which stood between the lock, or weir, and the outer gate of the abbey, was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, by Robert Burnel, bishop of Bath and Wells, in 1281; the same year that the buildings of the abbey were completed. Ela Longespe, countess of Warwick, also built a chapel here, and gave lands for its support; the foundation stone of which, with an inscription on it, was dug up in 1705; and a facsimile of it, engraved by Cole, is in Hearne's Appendix to Leland's Itinerary, vol. II. and in Peshall, p. 327.

Of the remains of this abbey in 1720 there are four engravings in Stevens' Supplement, vol. II. p. 52. They are now in a less perfect state: but we have thought it best to give an engraving of the ruins in p. 1, as they appear at present. The arms of the founder and his father, engraved by Cole, are still seen carved in stone on the garden walls, and there is a handsome doorway fronting the canal, which we have given in p. 11.

The small hamlet of MEDLEY, Middeny, or Middleheit[p], together with the hamlet of Wyke, was ceded to the canons of Oseney by the burgesses of Oxford in 1209. These, with much meadow land in their vicinity, including Port Meadow, or Portmanheit, (the common meadow noticed in the Domesday survey,) Crippleit, and Sideling, were given to the burgesses of Oxford by royal grant prior to the Norman conquest. But when the power of the papal see was wielded against the burgesses on account of their condemnation and execution of three scholars in the turbulent reign of King John, they gave Med-

p So called because the middle *eye*, eyott, or island, between Binsey and Oseney; as Portmanheit was the island of the *portmen*, townsmen; or burgesses. Medley was valued at C^{s}. temp. Hen. viij.

ley and Wyke to the canons of Oseney, in order to obtain their intercession with the Roman pontiff.

The branch of the river Isis which runs from Port Meadow to the Castle mill, dividing into two streams near Rewley, forms a long and narrow bank or island: these streams unite again at the north end of Mr. Tawney's garden. The island is about 500 yards in length, varying in breadth from 50 to 10 yards, and was formerly known by the name of Wareham or Weir-ham bank, probably from the Weirs at Rewley and the Castle mills. This bank to the mill weir below was called the Fisher-row when it was given by the Conqueror to Robert D'Oilly, which name it still retains: it is partly the property of the city and partly of Christ Church.

BINSEY CHURCH.

BINSEY. The small but ancient village of BINSEY, although situated about a mile north-west, and apparently quite detached from the city of Oxford, is included within its boundary line, and the inhabitants were formerly liable

to all local taxes equally with other citizens, 'even for shutting of the gates,' &c. The parish is about a mile and three quarters in length, and three quarters of a mile in breadth, lying on the western side of Port Meadow, from which it is divided by the river. The land on both sides of the river is very low, and liable to be flooded after very heavy falls of rain; but in ordinary seasons forms excellent pasture. In 1771 there were only twelve houses in the parish; and they have not increased much since.

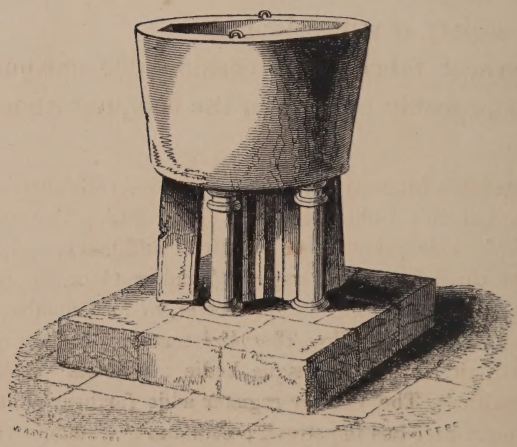
The church is situated about a quarter of a mile north-west of the village. It is said to have been founded by St. Frideswide, and first built of 'watlyn and rough hewn timber' about the year 730. It was then called Thornbury[q], being surrounded by thorny woods. The church was originally a small oratory, with some buildings adjoining for the use of the nuns, whither they used to retire for recreation, and sometimes to send their refractory members. It afterwards became the property of the canons of St. Frideswide, who annexed it for a time to St. Edward's: after the dissolution it came to Christ Church, to which society it still belongs.

The present fabric is of considerable antiquity, portions of it probably older than the conquest, though none

[q] See Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. I. p. 173–4; Kennett's Parochial Antiquities; Leland's Collectanea, vol. I. p. 342. The author of a life of St. Frideswide preserved in the Bodleian library, and quoted by Dugdale, has the following passage: 'Tandem Oxoniam rediit, et ne sororibus in cœnobio dimissis onerosa esset, in loco quodam juxta urbem multis arboribus consito, *Thornbiri* nuncupato, oratorium ædificiaque construxit, fontemque usque hodie manentem precibus impetravit et meritis.' The Oseney register adds further: 'Nam ibidem latitando fontem precibus impetravit; et unum a dæmonio vexatum, et alterum cujus manus securi adhæserat, liberavit.'

so early as the time of St. Frideswide. It is about sixteen yards in length, and six in breadth, and has no tower. The doorway has a circular head with the zig-zag moulding. In the chancel is a piscina and niche, in which a costly statue of St. Frideswide is said to have been placed, to which the superstitious people paid such frequent adoration, that the stone pavement around was worn hollow by their knees. The same anecdote is told of the stone steps to her shrine in Christ Church cathedral. These traditions go far to prove the great popularity of this saint, and the use that was made of it. The font is curious, and very ancient; of which we have here given an engraving, as conveying a better idea of it than any description could do.

The east end of this church being much decayed, was rebuilt in 1833 by the dean and chapter of Christ Church, as nearly as possible on the same model.



ANCIENT FONT IN BINSEY CHURCH.

E. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

IFFLEY CHURCH, FROM THE S.W.

MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.

GENERAL VIEW OF THE CHURCH FROM THE N. E.

Iffley Church and Parish.

THE CHURCH.—Few strangers of taste, who visit Oxford, and have time to extend their researches into the immediate vicinity, fail to take a survey of IFFLEY[a] CHURCH. It forms indeed an interesting school of ancient architecture. Of the original structure enough re-

[a] The name of this village has been written, like most others, in a variety of ways; and the progressive changes have been nearly as follows: Givetelei, Iveteleg, Yvetele, Yftele, Iftele, (in some instances incorrectly Istele,) Ziftele, Eiffley, Ifley, &c. There is nothing, however, to countenance the fanciful etymology of 'Heiferley,' in contradistinction to Cowley; which is itself a modern corruption from Culverley, Cuveley, Coveley, &c. There is every reason to believe, that the name was originally derived from the Saxon, Gyftaleȝa, or ȝyfteleȝe, which in Latin would be 'Campus donationum,' the field of gifts; or, Giftley. We shall presently have occasion to mention the donations of Juliana of St. Remi; and there were many others. See p. 13–16.

mains in the highest preservation, to gratify the most sanguine or the most fastidious; whilst the very alterations and additions, which the lapse of time has produced, afford a series of examples of almost every age and style. We need only state, that the five windows, which present themselves to our notice on either side, display in the sweep and construction of their arches alone five different characters; embracing, apparently, as many centuries. But it is on the sculptured enrichments of the oldest parts of the fabric that the imagination dwells with peculiar satisfaction. 'In these enrichments,' to adopt the language of an enthusiastic writer on a similar occasion, who was practically conversant with the subject, 'we can discover much of the *Saxon* taste, and the dawnings of those bright efforts of an inexhaustible fancy for ornamental embellishments, which our *Norman* architectural ancestors have so abundantly left behind them, to charm our eyes, and to inform our minds[b].'

The date of the original construction of this church has long been a subject of inquiry, and a point much contested by architects and antiquaries. Nothing certain is known respecting it, except that the ADVOWSON of it was given to the canons of the monastery of Kenilworth in Warwickshire, by Juliana de S. Remigio[c], together with some land in Cowley, and at Mollington in Warwickshire. The church therefore, we may presume, is anterior to this donation; and nearly coeval with that of Kenilworth, to which it was annexed. Most architects are of opinion, from a comparison with other structures

[b] Carter's 'Ancient Architecture of England,' P. I. p. 34.

[c] See Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. II. p. 117; and Warwickshire, under Mollington, p. 414. See also pp. 14, 15 of this account.

both in this country and in Normandy, that it was built early in the twelfth century. Warton in his History of Kiddington says, that it was erected by a bishop of Lincoln, in that century; but he gives no authority for the assertion[d]. If it be true, that bishop was probably Robert de Cheney; who was a great builder. At the west end of the church of Kenilworth is a highly enriched arch, which accords in character with the general architecture of this church. This is ascertained to be of the time of Bernard the first prior; to whom lands were delivered at Kenilworth 'ad opus ecclesiæ' by the elder Geoffry de Clinton, and confirmed by Henry I. To this may be added, that in the first charter of endowment by this same Geoffry, bishop Roger of Sarum occurs as a witness. He died in the year 1139; and the church of Kenilworth was then founded.

PLAN.—This edifice consists of a NAVE, TOWER, and CHANCEL; without any transept, or side aisles. The western front consists of three stories, embellished in a similar manner. A wide portal, enriched with receding arches, and a profusion of elaborate sculpture, occupies the centre of the first story; on each side of which is a narrow and lofty arcade of ornamental masonry. In the centre of the second story are the traces of a circular window of uncommon dimensions; into which a mullioned window, of no very elegant form, has been subsequently introduced. The original window, in the interior, must have been nearly thirty feet in circumference. Above this, in the third, or gable story, are the

[d] See Warton's Kiddington, p. 11, ed. 1815.—The reader may seek in vain for any additional information on this point from Ducarel, Grose, Gough, King, Britton, Brewer, or even the Gentleman's Magazine for 1791 and 1818; where there are views of the church.

remains of four other windows, highly decorated with zigzags, &c.; which, having been rendered almost useless by the substitution of a modern roof and ceiling under the situation which they occupy, have been long since stopped, and are now merely ornamental arcades. A part of this gable was restored a few years since, chiefly at the expense of the late Mr. Robert Bliss, from an old engraving; and with so much care and judgment, that it is almost impossible to distinguish the restored work from that which has never been injured.

The sweep of the three lowermost of these windows, particularly of the central one, is elliptical; but there is no appearance of sinking. The small window above has its exact counterpart in the eastern gable. This circumstance, in conjunction with the flat buttresses, the old string courses, and other appearances of the external walls, satisfactorily proves that the ground-plan and general dimensions of the church are the same as at first; though the interior and exterior have undergone considerable alteration.

The first change observable is in the CHANCEL; the internal arrangement of which exhibits a distinct character. The eastern compartment is so totally different from the one immediately to the west of it, that most architects have imagined it to be a subsequent addition. The groins of the roof are quite plain, instead of being richly ornamented with zigzag work, the windows are pointed, without any trace of the circular heads over them; and the whole is of the early pointed English style, which succeeded to the rich Norman of the rest of the church, and must be at least a century later, if not more. It is only by a careful examination of the exterior we are convinced, that the walls themselves

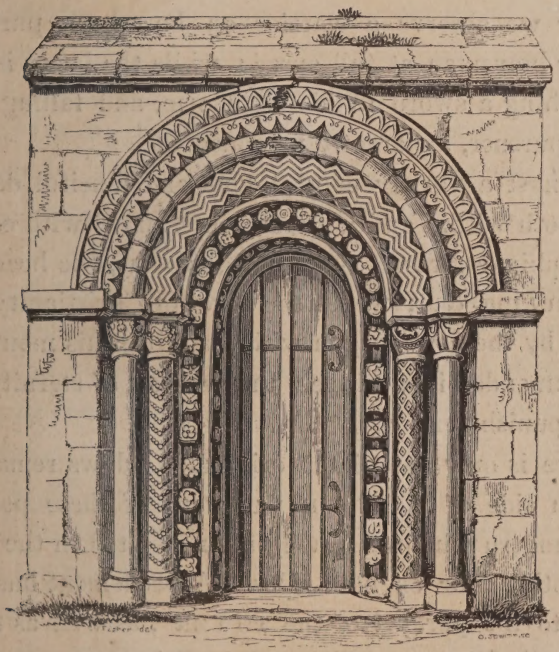
Mackenzie. J.H. Le Keux.

INTERIOR OF IFFLEY CHURCH.

[LOOKING WEST.]

Oxford: Published by John Henry Parker. 1845.

form part of the original fabric: and that the interior has been fitted up afresh, probably as a Lady chapel; parted off by a screen and steps from the western portion of the chancel. These two compartments afford, in juxtaposition, as fine specimens as any which remain to us in their respective styles of architecture. If we might hazard a conjecture, probably the new work originated with Robert de Efteley, sometimes written Esteley, the seventh prior of Kenilworth; a native of this village.



THE SOUTH PORCH.

The beautiful PORTALS, north and south, are as fresh and perfect as when newly erected. That on the north side abounds chiefly in masonic decorations of the most chaste and elegant simplicity. The other, on the south, displays an exuberance of sculptured embellishments,

exemplified in an union of classical and hieroglyphical subjects, which is truly astonishing. The spectator is here reminded of the tale of the centaurs and of the exploits of Theseus. On one of the capitals a female centaur is represented nursing her young; and on an adjoining one is another feeding and protecting the parent. On one is a lioness overthrowing a horse, with the saddle on his back, the rider having escaped; whilst on the opposite side a man is represented vanquishing an animal of the most wild and ferocious description. On another we observe a warrior on horseback pursuing another horseman at full speed; while the latter is seen brandishing a sword in his right arm, and falling back on his pursuer, apparently wounded.

Amongst a variety of grotesque and fanciful decorations, both within and without; intermixed with eagles, lions, sphinxes, roses, signs of the zodiac, the head of a Norman king, &c.; we see the doves of Christianity contrasted by the fiery dragon with his tail in his mouth, or the salamander in a circle; the symbols of eternity and future punishment.

There is only one of the original windows remaining on each side of the NAVE, westward of these portals; more modern windows having been inserted in the room of the other four on both sides. A battlement has been added to the parapet of the TOWER [e], as well as to the south wall of the nave. The corbels of the latter are square

[e] The ancient cornice to the square compartments, in which the windows of this tower are placed, is singularly curious; having triangular apertures, like pigeon-holes, alternately arranged with the semicircles. See Carter's 'Ancient Architecture of England.' P. I. p. 30. The battlement is properly given in outline in his plate of details; being a later work. In the belfry are six bells; two of which have the dates 1592 and 1646.

blocks, quite plain, with the exception of two. The east window and the two next to it, north and south, now partly walled up, are of the earliest lancet shape, with unornamented jambs. The next pair, north and south, are about a century later, and of increased dimensions; having one central munnion, which divides them into double lights, though without tracery; except that the head of each window is filled with a plain quatrefoil, within a circle; the first effort of fenestral embellishment. In the broader span of the windows, which have been inserted to give light to the space under the belfry, the transition to a later style is strongly marked: but in the contiguous windows of the nave, which exhibit similar tracery, the arches are more flattened, and assume a character totally distinct; though they are probably nearly coeval with those of the two preceding.

The original Norman windows must have been of unusually large dimensions, and very richly ornamented; corresponding with the west end. They may still be distinctly traced in the interior: the sweep of the arches being in some instances left, and in most the outer line of zigzag mouldings: particularly under the tower, and in the adjoining compartment eastward; where the arches must have been nearly as lofty and as rich, in their original state, as those which divide the nave and chancel.

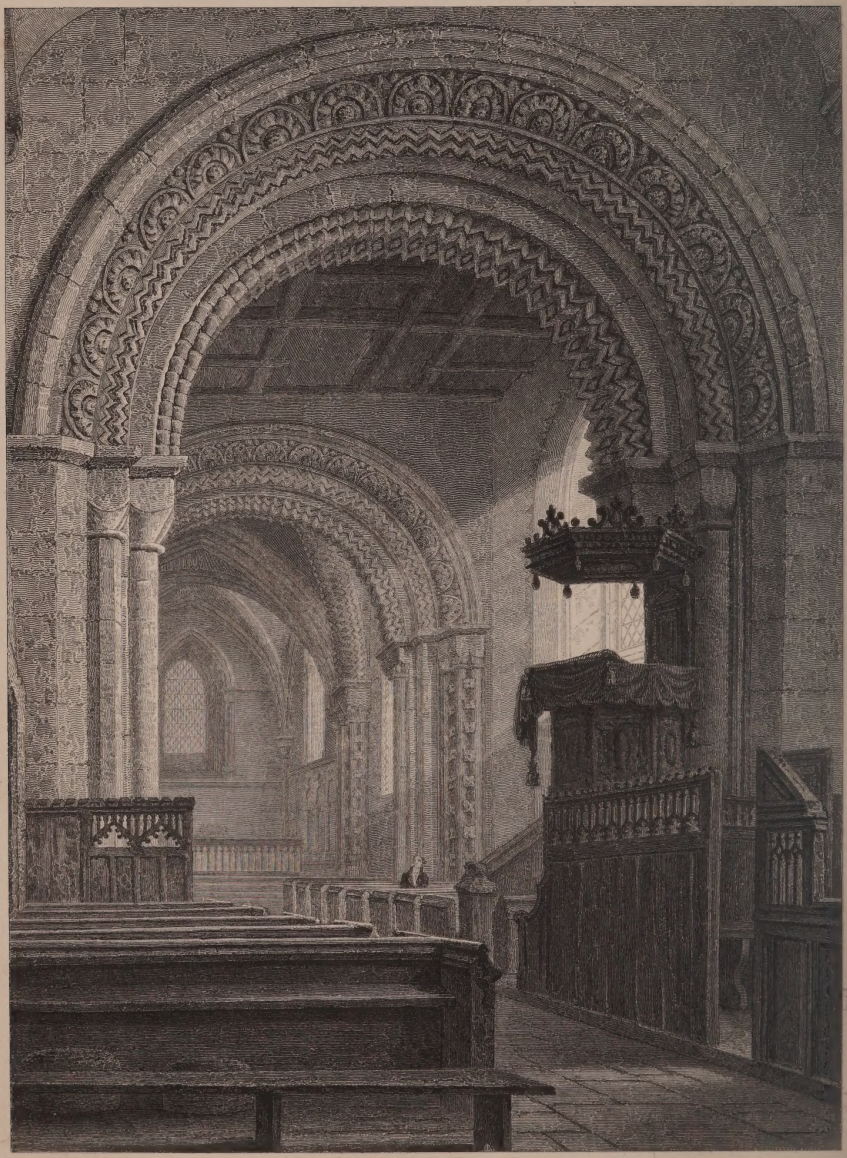
In the interior was formerly a SCREEN, removed not long since, which separated the nave from the chancel; with a staircase, excavated in the wall, leading to the roodloft, &c.; introduced probably in the fifteenth century. The doorways are walled up; but there is a small aperture still visible on the outside, which was probably intended to give light to the staircase. The stone steps

leading to the original pulpit, which was also of stone, still remain; serving to form the ascent to the present pulpit, which rests on the old pedestal of freestone. The stalls also for the three officiating ministers of the altar, together with the ambries, a benetier, or piscina, and other accompaniments of the ancient worship, are carefully preserved in the chancel[f], called traditionally 'the Lady chapel;' this church being dedicated to the Virgin Mary, as was that of Kenilworth.

The FONT, which is a very early and curious specimen, is quite perfect; and stands near the west end. It is of uncommonly large dimensions; being about three feet six inches square: supported by a large central column[g], and four others of smaller diameter at the angles. Three of these have fluted sweeps, resembling some of those on the exterior of the church: the fourth is half round, and half square, with singular mouldings at the base; but none of them have any capitals. The upper part is of black marble, similar to that of four columns of an octangular shape, attached to the piers which support the tower; but the basin, which is about three feet in diameter, is of lead; fixed in the square block. A small perspective view of it is here given in a woodcut: another accompanies a Dissertation on Fonts, by Mr. Gough, in the tenth volume of the Archæologia; and a front

[f] In the chancel is a square tomb of freestone, with a slab of black marble upon it, which once contained several brasses, of which the outlines are still distinct: and in front is the name of Mr. Arthur Pitts, who died May 16, 1579. There is also an inscription to the memory of Barten Holyday, who died in 1641: and on the south side of the chancel lies buried the celebrated Saxon scholar, EDWARD THWAITES, fellow of Queen's college; who died in 1711.

[g] This was called the 'stole' of the font so late as 1468; that is, the *stool*, or pedestal. V. Archæol. X. 179.

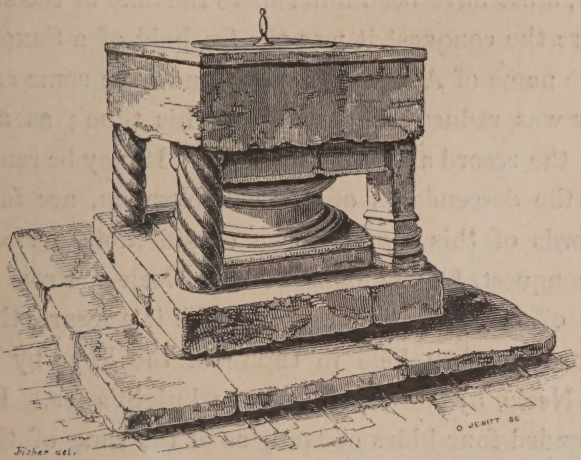


F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

INTERIOR OF IFFLEY CHURCH.

Published April 1.1834. by J.H. Parker Oxford: C. Tilt, Fleet Street: & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

view may be seen in Carter's 'Ancient Architecture of England[h].'



THE FONT.

In the southern part of the churchyard are the remains of an ancient cross of stone, but there are no traces of sculpture upon it. The shaft, which is octagonal, is about nine feet high. Near it is a very old yew tree, the trunk of which is of uncommon size, but much decayed. Both appear in our general view from the S. W.

The MANOR.—It has been erroneously stated, that earl Aubrey (Albericus) held Iffley at the time of the Norman survey. This is not strictly true; for all his possessions, though situated in five different counties, are invariably recorded in the past tense,—'tenuit;' and on several occasions this memorandum occurs: 'These lands did belong to earl Aubrey, but are now in the hands of the king.' In one instance he is accused, in a marginal note, of having dispossessed the church of Coventry of

[h] In that valuable work are many other etchings of parts of Iffley church, with the details, &c. See note[e], p. 6.

land given to it by earl Alwin in the time of Edward the Confessor. The period, therefore, in which he held Iffley, must have been anterior to the date of the survey[i]. Before the conquest it was the freehold of a Saxon chief of the name of Azor, or Hazor; and from some cause or other was reduced in value after his time; as appears from the record above mentioned[k]. It may be remarked, that the descendants of Nigel, a Norman, are found to be lords of this manor for a considerable period after the conquest, by the name of Fitz-Neele. From an extract of an inquisition 39 Hen. III. it appears, that the manor was then held in capite of the king by Robert Fitz-Neele, by the service of one knight's fee. It comprehended four hides of land, as at the time of the conqueror's survey; that is, about 480 acres in tillage; and was valued at *22l.*

In the more extended rolls of the hundred, 7 Ed. I, many interesting particulars are recorded, which illustrate the history of this parish; the general state of property, manners, customs, agriculture, &c. They occupy about three columns folio in the abbreviated type of the printed records; so that we can do little more than notice the principal occupiers of the soil.

The summary of the whole survey is this: 'That the free tenants, or freeholders, as well of Littlemore as of

i Dugdale calls him 'an Englishman.' Baronage, I. 188.

k The following is the entry in the Domesday survey: 'XVIII. The land of Earl Albericus (Aubrey.) Earl Aubrey held Givetelei (Iffley) of the king. There are iiij hides. The land consists of VI carucates. In demesne is I carucate with V serfs: and xiiij villeins with VI boarders (boors) have iiij carucates. There is a fishery producing a rent of four shillings xxiiij acres of meadow; and I furlong of pasture. There is also a grove, ij acres in length and breadth. It was worth C shillings: now iiij pounds. Azor held it freely in the time of king Edward.' Fol. 157 b.

Little Iffley, and the tenants of William Burgan, and the rector of the CHURCH of Iffley, and the prior of Kenilworth, shall give scutage, or escuage, when it happens, for four hides of land and a *half*, gildable to the lord of Iffley; who is the mesne lord between them and the king.' This *half* hide, in addition to the former four, seems to have constituted the property of William Burgan above mentioned; which was long afterwards called 'Burganham,' to distinguish it from the rest of the parish. It was held of the lord of Iffley by the payment of an annual quit rent, merely nominal; that is, a pound of pepper and a pound of cummin; with suit of court at Iffley and at the court of the hundred. This portion of the manor is probably the same which is now vested in Lincoln college. The manor house, which is now occupied by Mrs. Nowell, is on the south side of the church.

The inhabitants of Iffley, at the time of this survey, claimed the appointment of a head-tythingman, and a taster of ale, in the lord's court, &c.

The state of agriculture appears from the following facts: There were fifteen tenants on the manor, each of whom held half a yardland; that is, about fifteen acres on an average; for which they were each to pay an annual rent of *three shillings* to the lord of Iffley. But the lord had a right to select from them, according to his own will, carters, shepherds, and harvestmen; those who were put to such employments not being bound to give rent: and if the lord chose to assemble them all to work for him, each was to be paid by an allowance of the three shillings rent. They were to carry out cans, or pitchers, as long as the work continued; a breakfast being considered sufficient for them; and then to return.

Also in Little Iffley and in Cowley were seventeen

customary[1] tenants; each of whom held half a yardland by a similar payment of three shillings in annual rent, or the rent was to be commuted for work done with carts, horses, and servants, at the will of the lord: and they were bound to go on day-work to a distance of twenty leagues, at the pleasure of the lord; but they were to have their sustenance from the lord, and their allowance of rent, as before. There were also seven cottagers on the manor, at an annual rent of 11*s.* 10*d.*: who were bound moreover to make the lord's hay; and each of them, after every day's work, according to the custom of the manor, was permitted to have a '*yelm*'[m] of hay. In like manner, in the autumn, each was bound to give the lord three days work, when required; and at the end of the day, in return, was to have a sheaf of corn as large as a band of its own would admit of its being made. They were also to pay to the lord of Iffley their 'church-scot[n],' namely, twenty-four head of poultry.

Several cottages in the parish of St. Clement belonged at this time to the fee of Iffley; among others, five were

[1] These tenants were generally called, in common parlance, COPYHOLDERS; because, though they held their lands and tenements according to the *custom* of the manor, whence they were called 'custumarii,' yet from a very early period they had a *copy* of the court roll delivered to them, to give additional security to their tenures.

[m] This expression is now applied only to straw prepared for thatching. It nearly corresponds with the word *truss;* being as much as a man could carry in his arms.

[n] 'Chirshat,' in the original. Some antiquaries and lawyers, from the corrupt manner in which this word has been written, have distinguished, unnecessarily perhaps, between 'church-scot,' ecclesiastical oblations, and 'church-seed,' *primitiæ seminum,* or, as they explain it, *semen ecclesiæ,* due on St. Martin's day. The Norman scribes sometimes wrote it 'cherchez.' The best interpretation, as usual, is in Spelman's Glossary.

held in frankalmoigne by the brethren of the hospital of St. Bartholomew; who had also six acres of land and three cottages with the appurtenances in Burganham. The brethren of the Temple at Cowley had likewise three cottages at MOTTISHEY, the gift of Henry de Garsindone; with other tenements and lands; and two acres, with a meadow, given by William de Garsindone, 'to maintain the lamp of the Blessed Mary of Temple-Cowley.'

William de la Fenne held of the fee of Iffley four acres of land for two shillings and threepence, to be paid to the CHURCH of Iffley for the maintenance of THREE lamps. This is said to be 'from ancient enfeoffment.' The rector of St. Mary's church in Oxford (afterwards appropriated to Oriel college) held half an acre of land, with the appurtenances, from the gift and enfeoffment of Hugh Sered (*Sheard.*) The abbot of Oseney, in addition to a small rent given in frankalmoigne from a certain tenement in the manor, possessed fifteen acres of land, which lay for half a yardland. This had also been a part of William Burgan's estate[o].

[o] Richard de Saunford, or Sandford, who is mentioned in the hundred rolls of 7 Ed. I. as holding a yardland at the rent of six shillings payable to Robert Fitz-Neele, lord of Iffley, died seized of the same in 1290, 18 Ed. I; and the land is described in the inquisition roll as in Little Iffley. Radulphus de Sandford held half a yardland for a small quitrent; the gift of the lady Juliana of St. Remi. Richard Fitz-Neele had a charter of free warren in Iffley 27 Ed. I, but the manor was granted and confirmed by charter 9 Richard II. to sir Richard Abberbury, knt., the builder of Donnington castle, Berks; who in the 16th year of the same king's reign obtained a license to settle the said manor, there called YIFTELEY, with all its appurtenances for ever, on his newly founded hospital near the castle.

The brethren of the hospital of St. John in Oxford are recorded as having several acres of land at HERTESHEVED (Hartshead) and elsewhere, which their successors in Magdalene college now possess.

THE RECTORY HOUSE.

The RECTORY.—The rector of the church of Iffley, at the time of the inquisition which took place 7 Edward I. 1279, held four acres of arable land and two acres of meadow in demesne; with two yardlands in villenage, which produced a rent of 12*s.* per annum to the said rector for the time being; and the villeins were bound to work for the said rector during the time of haymaking and harvest, according to his will. There were also three cottages which produced 6*s.*, and the occupiers were bound to work according to the will of the said rector.

It is recorded in this Survey, that Juliana of ST. REMI, in Latin 'de sancto Remigio,' formerly lady of the manor, gave the aforesaid land, with the cottages and all the rest of the appurtenances, and the advowson[p] of

[p] It was soon after appropriated to the archdeacon of Oxford for the time being, to whom it still belongs. In the Taxation of pope Nicholas, published by the record commissioners, where *Iftele* is erroneously printed for *Iftele*, the church is valued among the spiritualities of the see of Lincoln at 14*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* In Bacon's 'Liber Regis' it is called a vicarage, and rated at 8*l.*; but in a note below it is de-

the CHURCH, together with her own body, to the prior and convent of KENILWORTH. This, according to Dugdale, was in the time of Henry II.

The prior of Kenilworth also held one yardland of the fee of Iffley, with the appurtenances, which he derived from the gift of Robert the 'palfrey-groom' of the lady Juliana de St. Remi; which land he also received as a gift from the lady herself.

The present house attached to the rectory has a venerable appearance, but it has undergone considerable alterations. The oblong windows are singular, some having three lights, others six; though some of the latter are walled up. Our woodcut represents them entire.

The oldest register begins in the year 1572; and the Act of Inclosure is dated 22nd June, 1815. The population has been nearly doubled in the course of thirty years, between 1801 and 1831; as appears from the population abstract printed in the latter year.

The MILL.—The picturesque appearance of Iffley Mill has often attracted the notice of artists; and a portion of it is here given in a woodcut, from a beautiful drawing by Mr. Mackenzie. There has been a mill here almost from time immemorial. In the survey of 7 Ed. I. it is noticed in conjunction with a messuage and yardland and four acres of meadow, with a free water for fishing from the village of Iffley to the mill called Boymill[q]. But there was an annual rent of forty-four shil-

scribed as 'a curacy served by the appointment of the archdeacon of Oxford, who is the impropriator.' It was certified to the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty to be of the yearly value of 12*l.*; but having not been certified into the exchequer by virtue of the discharging act it still remains charged. *Ibid.* V. Valor Hen. viij. vol. II. p. 171, 173.

[q] A fishery is also recorded as belonging to Littlemore, 'in aqua TAMISIE inter SANDFORD et IFTELE.' Hundred Rolls, p. 723.

lings payable to the lord of Iffley. This mill, with the appurtenances, has long been the property of Lincoln college. The sum of 400*l.* was given in 1622, by sir Francis Stonor and William Wickham[r] of Abingdon, to Philip Pitts of Iffley, for his interest in a lease of this property for sixty-one years granted by the college in the time of queen Elizabeth to his father, Arthur Pitts, before mentioned.

THE MILL.

[r] This William Wickham is supposed to be the founder of the Garsington branch of that family; one of whom, of the same name, was a fellow of Trinity college. Two coheiresses carried the estates by marriage into the family of the Drakes of Shardeloes, near Amersham. See 'Collectanea Topographica,' printed by Nichols and Son.

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